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BOROUGH OF DARWEN.

REPORT

OF

F. G. HAWORTH, M.B.C.M., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1896.

DARWEN:
J. J. RILEY, Printer, Bookbinder, &c., "News" Office.

1897.

Vale House, Darwen,

February, 1897.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my second Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1896.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. G. HAWORTH,

Medical Officer of Health,

Darwen Urban Sanitary Authority.

Members of the Health Committee,

1896-97.

Mayor:

COUNCILLOR ALEX. CARUS, J.P.

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR JOHN TOMLINSON, J.P.

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR RALPH SHORROCK.

ALDERMAN COCKER, J.P.
,, DUXBURY, J.P.
,, SHORROCK, J.P.
COUNCILLOR T. W. A. FORREST.

COUNCILLOR ASPDEN, J.P.
,, BALLANTYNE, M.B.C.M.
,, COOPER.
,, RAWLINSON, J.P.

COUNCILLOR SHACKLETON, J.P.

Chief Inspector of Nuisances - -	W. E. MARSDEN.
Assistant - - - - - - - -	C. R. WALSH.
Scavenging Superintendent *Farm Inspector* } - - - -	W. H ECCLES.
Medical Officer of Infectious Diseases Hospital - - -	F. G. HAWORTH, M.B.C.M., D.P.H.

RAINFALL.

The following is the Rainfall for the Year 1896—

January	1.64 inch
February	2.75 inches
March	6.87 ,,
April	2.46 ,,
May	0.76 ,,
June	4.42 ,,
July	3.12 ,,
August	3.52 ,,
September	9.32 ,,
October	6.34 ,,
November	1.97 ,,
December	7.45 ,,
	50·62

I regret that these returns are not more complete and consequently more valuable. I, however, anticipate that before long we shall be in possession of all the necessary instruments.

POPULATION.

TABLE I.

From the Returns of the Registrar General of the Census of 1891.

Age.	Males.	Females.	Age.	Males.	Females.
Under 1 year	436	449	Under 45 years	702	890
1 ,,	415	393	50 ,,	626	766
2 years	377	418	55 ,,	443	493
3 ,,	363	380	60 ,,	286	410
4 ,,	358	382	65 ,,	184	249
5 ,,	1919	1861	70 ,,	108	148
10 ,,	1892	2012	75 ,,	50	69
15 ,,	1833	2072	80 ,,	19	33
20 ,,	1626	1911	85 ,,	2	7
25 ,,	1433	1618	90 ,,	—	2
30 ,,	1162	1330			
35 ,,	987	1223		16025	18167
40 ,,	894	1045	Total		34,192

This was estimated for last year at 36,652, and was based on the population at the last Census, giving an average of 4.5 persons per house. In my opinion this is too low an estimate, but can only be corrected at the next Census period.

It is of very great importance in calculating Mortality Rates to have a correct basis to work upon, and I therefore again mention the desirability of taking the Census at more frequent intervals than is at present the case.

For statistical purposes, and to inform you of the change in the estimated population for this year, I purpose going into the matter at this place. Calculating this on the natural increment of the population, i.e., the number of births over the number of deaths, we get the following results:—

Total Births, 1,032; Deaths, 627; natural increase, 305; added to the population gives 36,957. As this does not take into account the immigrants, it is manifestly incorrect.

In 1881 the population was 29,744, and in 1891 it was 34,192, showing an increase of 4,448, or an annual increase of 444 on a basis of 29,744. Taking this on the basis of 34,192 gives us an annual increase during the period since 1891 of 510, which next Easter would bring our population up to 37,252, and this without taking into consideration the number of people who have come into the town on the introduction of new industries, and which must number at least 250. One large mill has been stopped, but another previously empty has been re-started.

During the year the Inspectors have gone carefully through the Borough, and taken the number of houses, and according to their returns this is 8,333. Calculating this at the rate of 4.5 per house, we get a population of 37,500, which I propose to take as the number for the year 1897.

BIRTHS.

The number of Births registered during the year was 1,032, viz., 531 males, and 501 females.

This gives an annual Birth-rate of 28.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

Table II. shows the estimated population, number of Births, and the Birth-rate for the Darwen Sanitary District since 1882.

The average rate for the last 15 years is 30.2 per 1,000.

TABLE II.

YEAR.	ESTIMATED POPULATION AT THE MIDDLE OF THE YEAR.	TOTAL BIRTHS.	BIRTH-RATE.
1882	30,295	987	32·2
1883	30,733	1057	34·4
1884	31,360	978	31·9
1885	31,720	1015	32·1
1886	32,185	965	30·0
1887	33,491	1000	30·8
1888	33,500	994	29·6
1889	34,500	978	28·1
1890	36,500	1075	29·4
1891	34,500	1115	32·3
1892	35,000	1057	30·3
1893	35,500	955	26·1
1894	36,000	1039	28·8
1895	36,000	1128	31·3
1896	36,652	1032	28·1

Notification of Infectious Diseases.

There have been 266 cases of Infectious Diseases reported to me during the year, viz.—Diphtheria 5, Croup 17, Erysipelas 70, Scarlet Fever 139, Typhoid Fever 33, Continued Fever 3, Puerperal Fever 9.

Table III. shows their distribution in numbers in the various Wards of the Town.

Table IV. shows this calculated at the rate per 1,000 of the population for each Ward, and for the Borough.

Cases reported in—	1894.	1895.	1896.
Smallpox	5	—	—
Scarlet Fever	127	46	139
Diphtheria	7	2	5
Croup	*—	9	7
Typhus Fever	1	—	—
Typhoid Fever	41	36	33
Puerperal Fever	1	8	9
Erysipelas	*5	27	70
Continued Fever	—	1	3
Relapsing Fever	—	1	—
	187	130	266

* Not included in Cases to be notified.

TABLE III.

WARDS.	SMALLPOX.	SCARLET FEVER.	DIPHTHERIA.	CROUP.	FEVERS.					CHOLERA.	ERYSIPELAS.	TOTAL.
					TYPHUS.	TYPHOID.	CONTINUED.	RELAPSING.	PUERPERAL.			
Central		12		3		6	1		1		15	38
West-Central...		15				4			1		8	28
North-East		17	1	1		9	1		1		11	41
North-West		2		1		1					19	23
South-East		17	2	1		9			3		10	42
South-West.....		76	2	1		4	1		3		7	94
		139	5	7		33	3		9		70	266

TABLE IV.

Rate per annum on Population of 36,652.

WARDS.	SMALLPOX.	SCARLET FEVER.	DIPHTHERIA.	CROUP.	FEVERS.					CHOLERA.	ERYSIPELAS.	TOTAL.
					TYPHUS.	TYPHOID.	CONTINUED.	RELAPSING.	PUERPERAL.			
Central		1·75		·43		·85	·14		·14		2·15	5·45
West-Central...		3·88				1·03			·25		2·07	7·24
North-East......		1·94	·11	·11		1·03	·11		·11		1·25	4·64
North-West ...		·40		·20		·20					3·82	4·63
South-East......		2·96	·34	·17		1·56			·52		1·76	7·32
South-West.....		11·90	·31	·15		·62	·15		·46		1·09	14·72
Borough......		3·79	·13	·19		·90	·08		·24		1·90	7·25

North-West Ward is again the lowest, and would have been still better but for the prevalence of Erysipelas. In this disease it stands the highest. It is closely followed by North-East Ward, which shows less favourably in respect of Scarlet Fever and Typhoid Fever. South-West Ward occupies the unenviable position as ranking the highest in Infectious Diseases, owing to the epidemic of Scarlet Fever being confined principally to that part of the town.

In spite of the larger number of Infectious cases reported over 1895, one gratifying feature is in the fact that Typhoid Fever is decreasing annually, and this can only be attributed to the number of Cesspools and Middens which have been done away with, and the greater attention which is being paid to sanitary matters generally.

I again draw your attention to the danger which arises from the indiscriminate use of Slates in the Day Schools, a matter which the masters would do well to pay more attention to. We have now acquired an Equifix Spray, by means of which rooms and larger buildings may be more efficiently disinfected than by the use of burning sulphur, and it will be our duty to use this with a solution of Mercuric Chloride in all cases where Infectious Diseases have occurred.

The "Register of Infected Houses" has proved a very valuable aid to an immediate recognition of a house when visited again by an Infectious Disease.

On the subject of Scarlet Fever, I have spent a considerable amount of time in following out the course of the Epidemics since 1888, and the results I now place before you. For the purpose of clearly demonstrating my meaning, I have prepared Charts showing the incidence of the disease, and its periods of decline. On consulting Chart I. you will see the disease appeared to the number of 31 in the month of January, and reached the highest point, viz., 34, in the following month. In March there were 32 cases reported. After that the curve drops to 18 in April, then rises to 27 in May, 26 in June, and in July the second big drop occurs, when only 8 cases were reported. In August another rise to 11 takes place; in September 17 cases crop up, and after that the disease declines, until in November only 5 cases, and the same number in December, are notified. I have not gone further back than 1888, so that I cannot state how the disease ran in the previous year, but during the year under observation it was distinctly epidemic in character, but was at the worst during the first quarter. In 1889 the disease was again epidemic in character, but the low curve at the end of 1888 was maintained until May, when 13 cases were reported during the month. Then a slight decline took place down to 7 cases in August, and the following month, viz., September, was noted for a large increase up to 30 cases. This number was also reported in October; from that time the number declined to 17 in December.

In 1890, the highest point was reached in January, when there were 12 cases, which looked like the decline of the disease from the previous year. The same number was reached in June, and after that there was a rapid falling off until December was reached with only 2 cases notified. This condition of things was maintained during the following year. The highest number was reached in September, when there were 7 cases, followed next month by a rapid decline to one case, and then an upward curve to 7 in December. This was increased to 9 in January, 1892, about which it remained for the first quarter. Then the disease rapidly became worse, 32 cases occurring in June, followed by a decline to 19 in July, then a sudden accession to 31 in August, after which there was another decline to 22 in September, and in October the apex of the curve was reached when there were 36 cases. From this time the disease abated somewhat, so that there were only 17 cases in December, few in comparison with the number previously reported, but still strongly suspicious that the last of the epidemic had not been reached, and this is confirmed by Chart No. V., when we find that during the year 1893 Scarlet Fever was again rife. The year was ushered in by an epidemic wave, there being 21 cases reported. A decline then occurred in February, there being only 10 cases, and 8 in March. The disease burst out afresh in April, and increased to 33 in May. This outburst was, however, only of short duration, and the following four months were of a quieter character, but only in the nature of a calm before a storm, as, in October, the unprecedented number of 49 was reached, but fortunately not maintained, and there was, during the last two months of the year, a rapid decline to 21 in December.

The year 1894 was ushered in with what appears as the remains of the previous year's epidemic. January had 20 cases, February 15, and March 20. After that there was a decline, with slight exacerbations until the end of the year. The average was much above what obtained usually in non-epidemic years, but this was the result of the disease being spread over from the previous year.

This depression continued during 1895, with occasional rises, especially during the months of September and November, the latter month being credited with 8 cases.

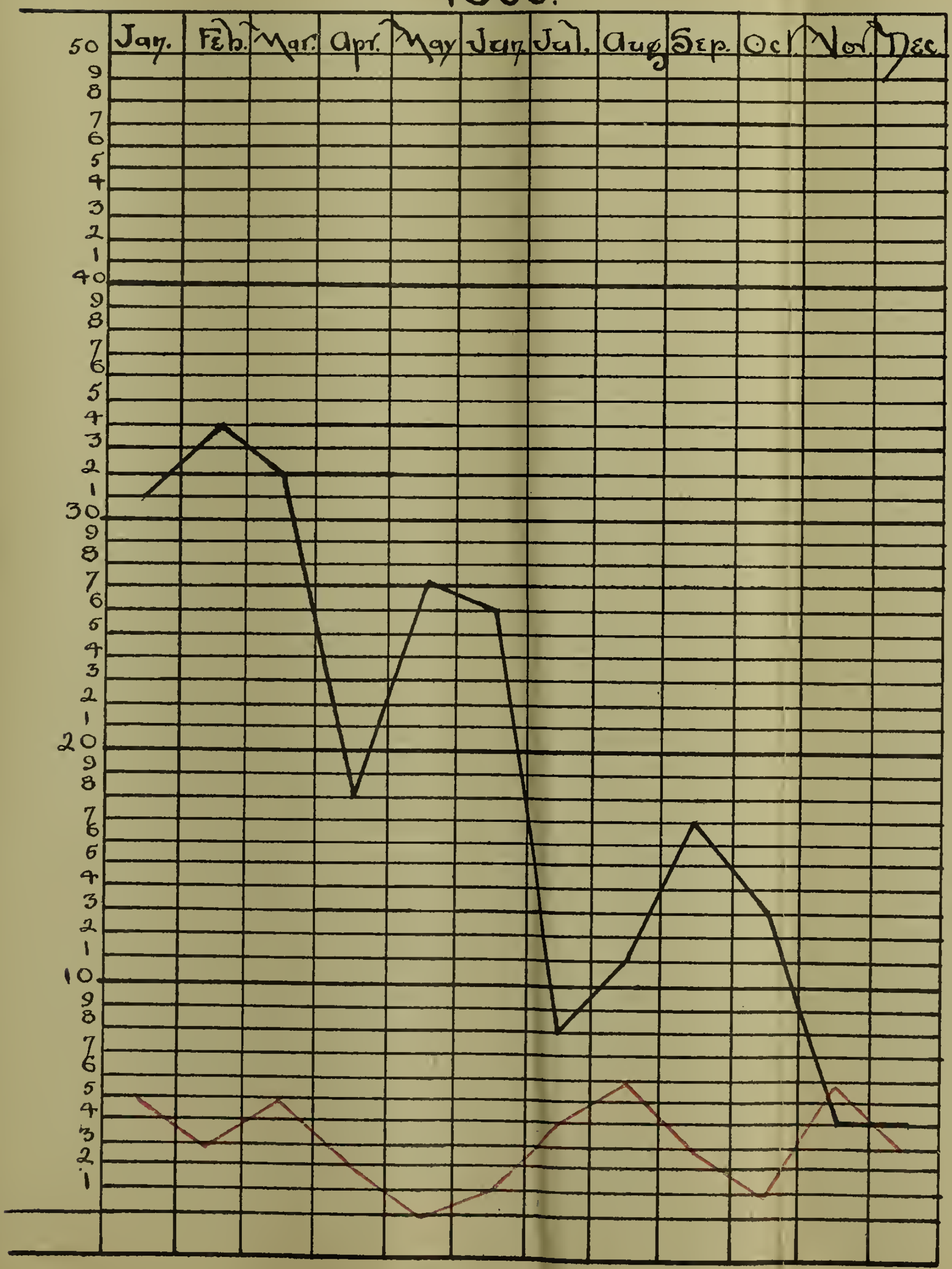
The year of my report, viz., 1896, began well, there being only two cases reported in each of the first three months. Then there were three cases in April and 2 in May. Afterwards the curve took a rapid course upwards to 14 in June, and 34 in July, this being the highest point reached. A decline took place to 27 in August; a slight increase to 29 in September, to be followed by a rapid decline in the epidemic during the remainder of the year, until 3 was reached in December.

I have endeavoured to show this object lesson more clearly by Chart X., where the years of exacerbations and remissions are more clearly defined, and we see that Scarlet Fever is prone to appear with remarkable regularity during certain years. Thus

Chart 1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED

1888.



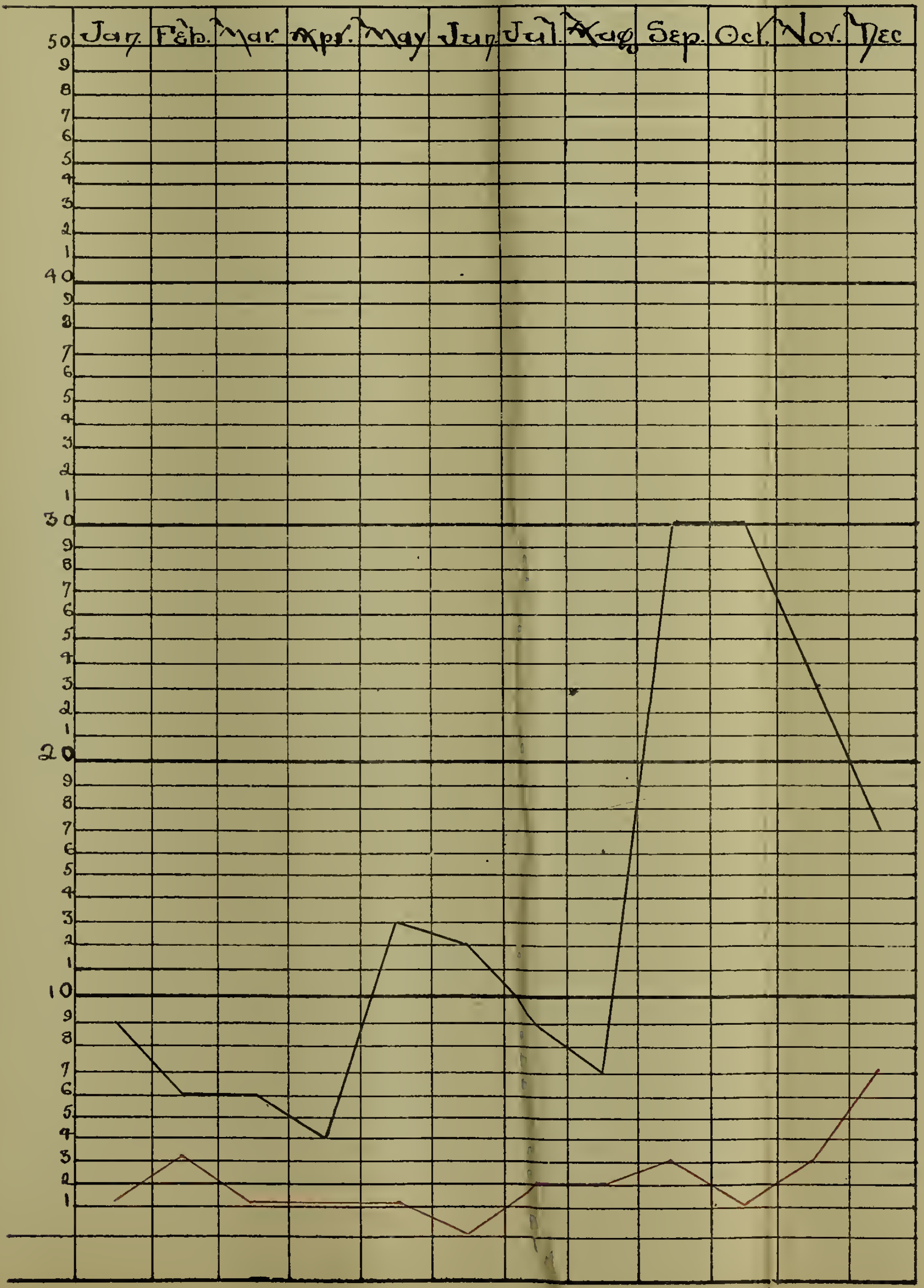
Scarlet Fever marked in "Black"

Typhoid " " " Red.

Chart 2

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED

—— 1889 ——



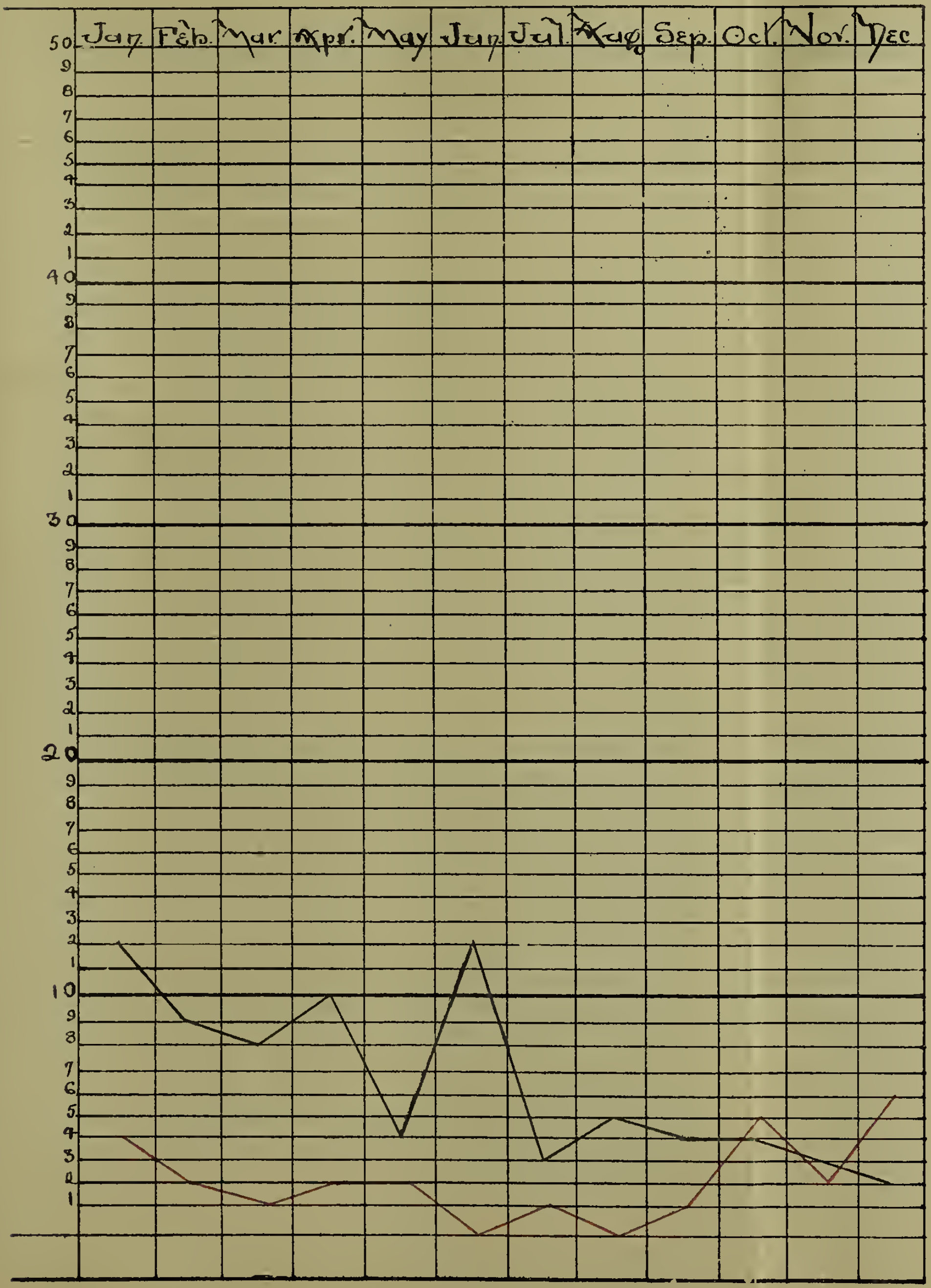
—— Scarlet Fever marked in "Black". ——

—— Typhoid " " " "Red". ——

Chart 3.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED

—1890—



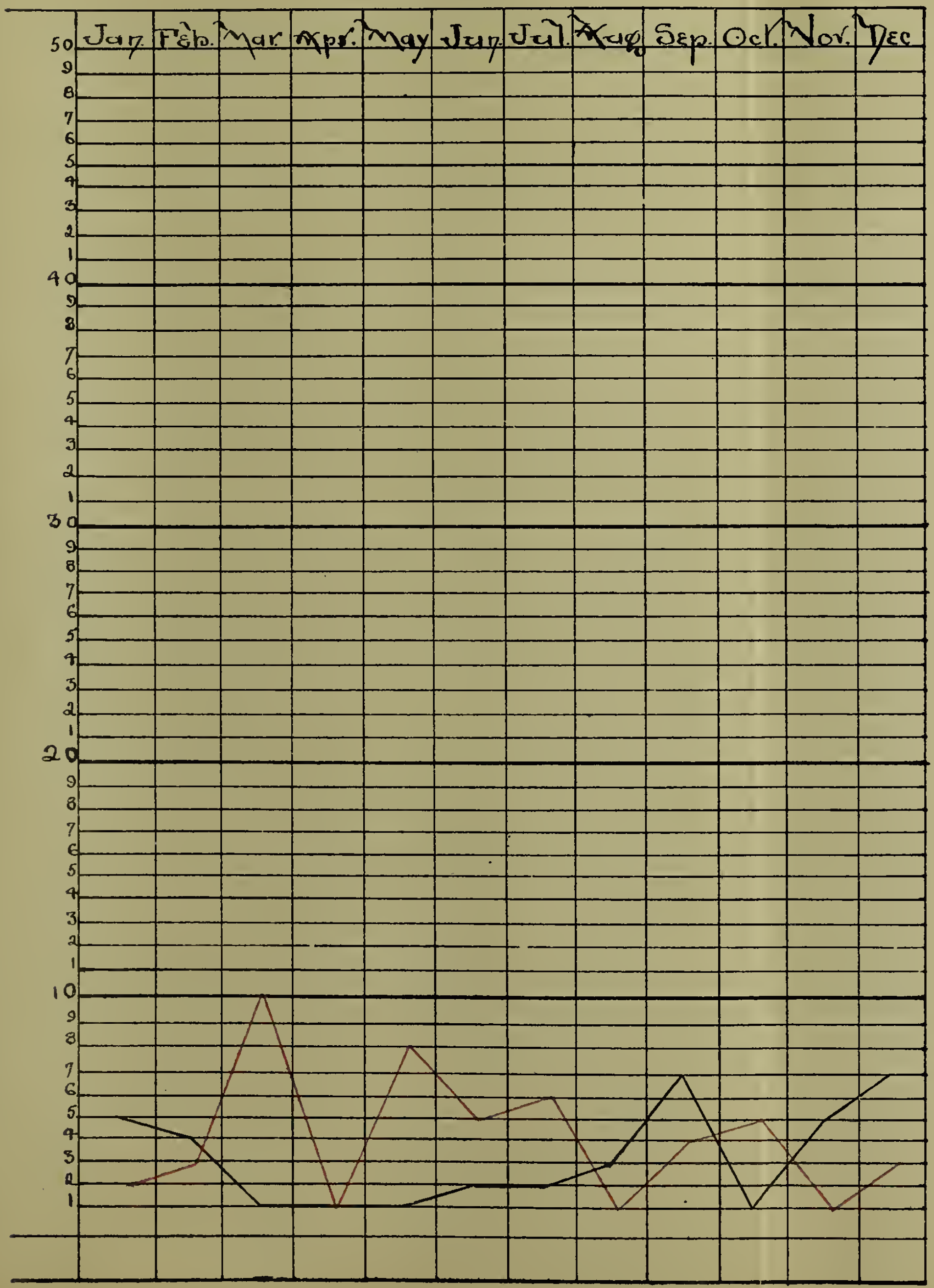
—Scarlet Fever marked in "Black".—

—Typhoid " " "Red"—

Chart 4

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED

—1891—

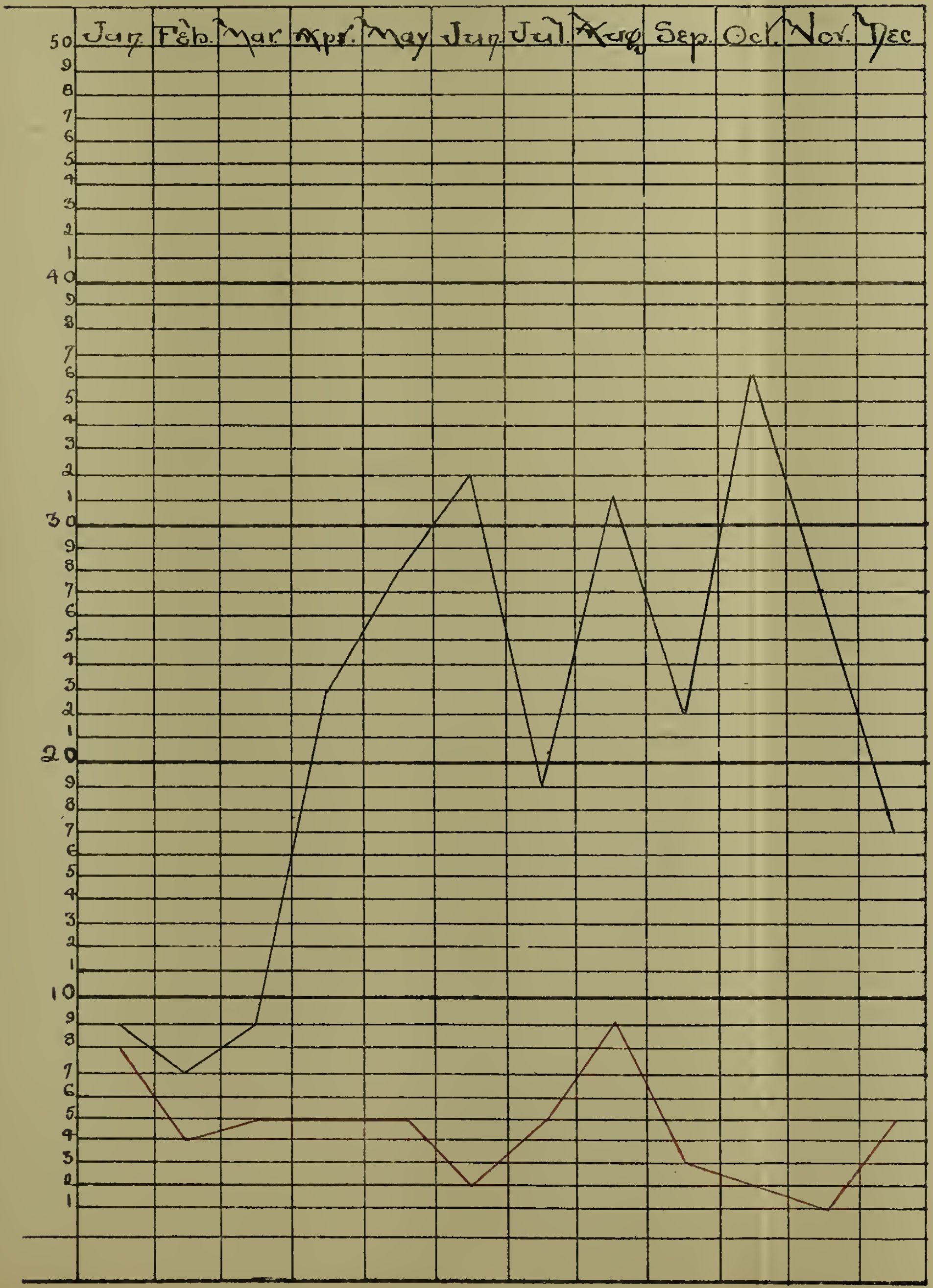


—Scarlet Fever marked in "Black".—

—Typhoid " " "Red"—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED

—1892—



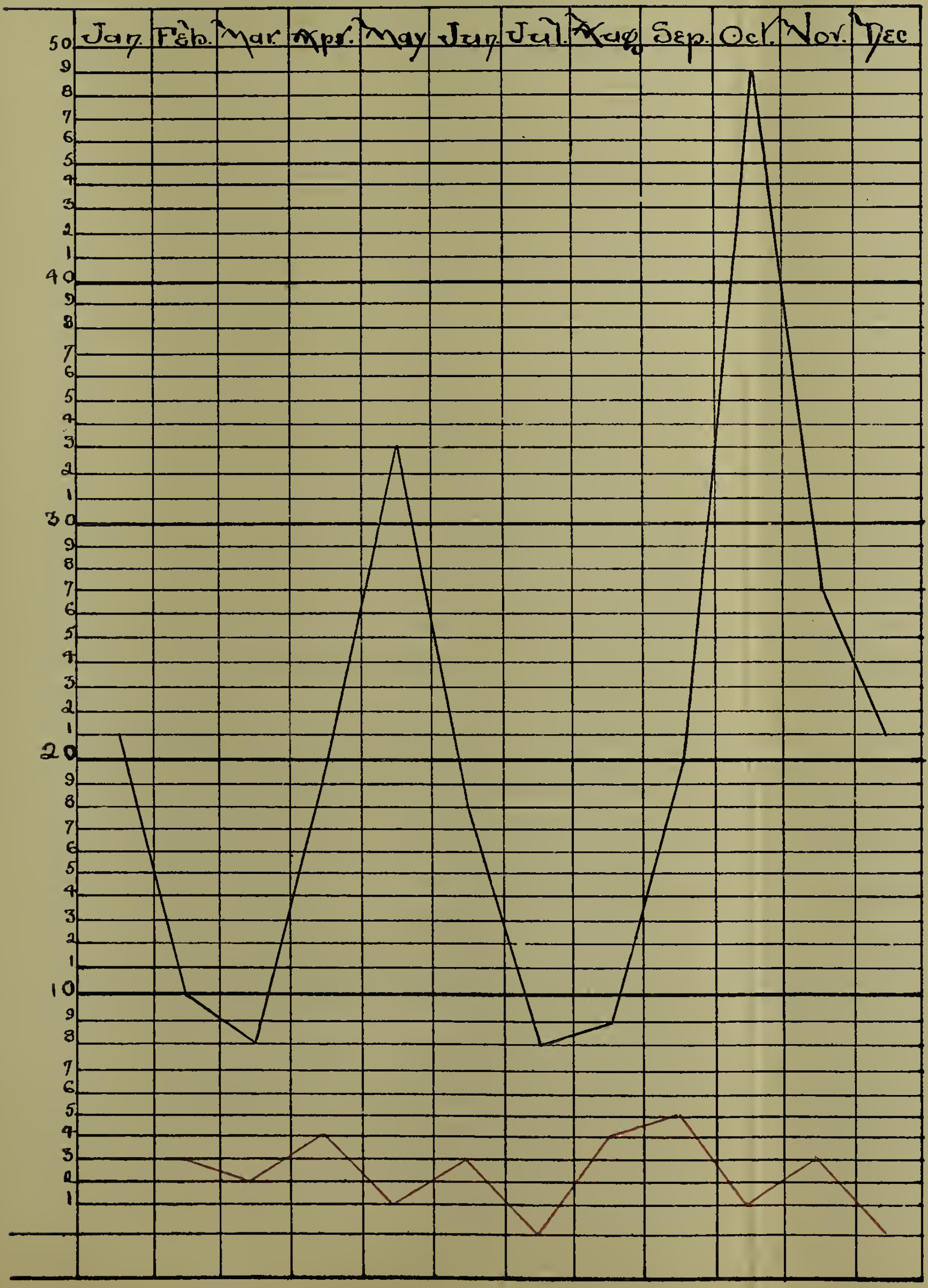
—— Scarlet Fever marked in "Black". ——

—— Typhoid " " " "Red" ——

Chart 6

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED

— 1893 —



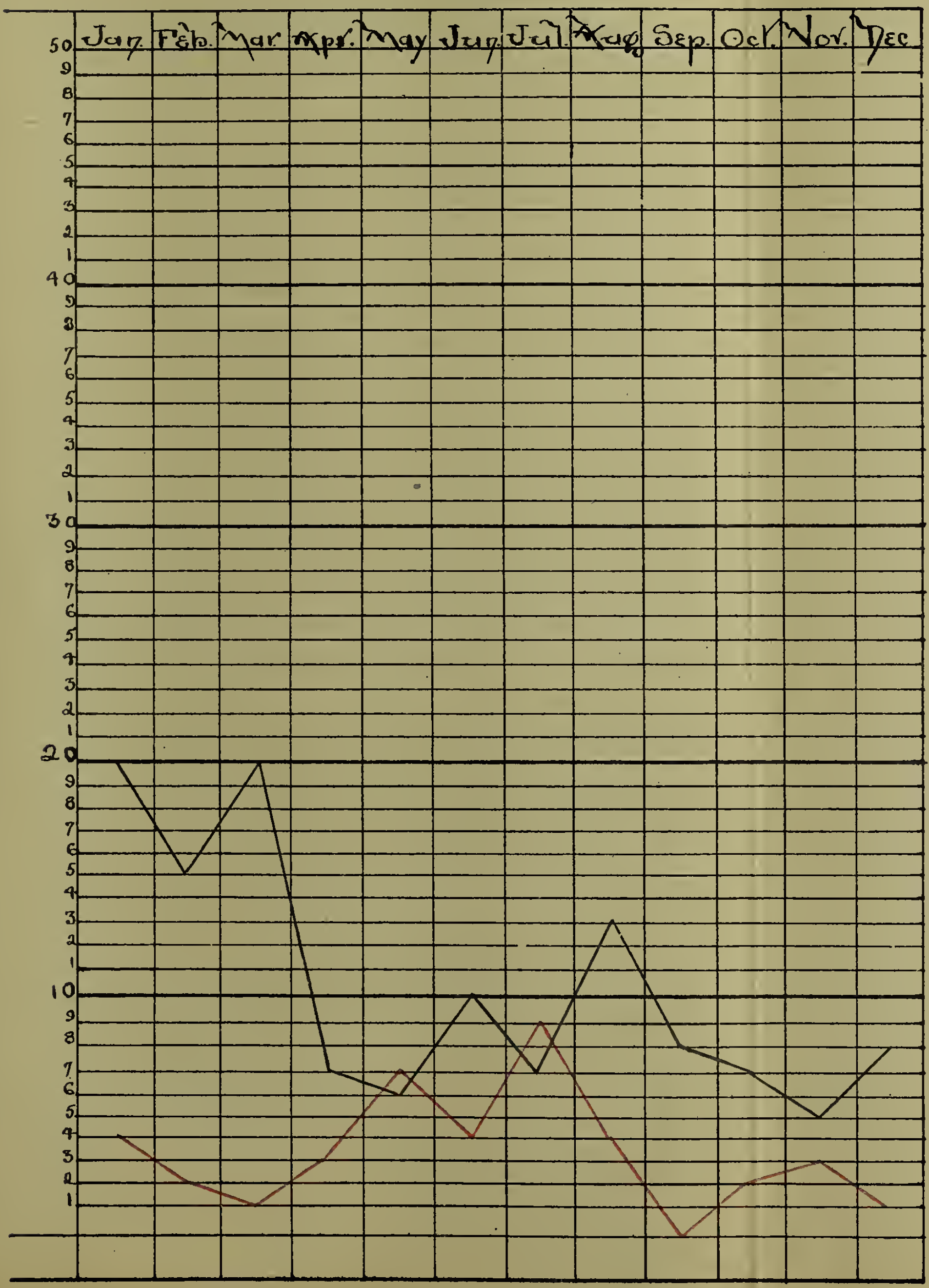
— Scarlet Fever marked in "Black". —

— Typhoid " " " "Red" —

Chart 7

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED

1894



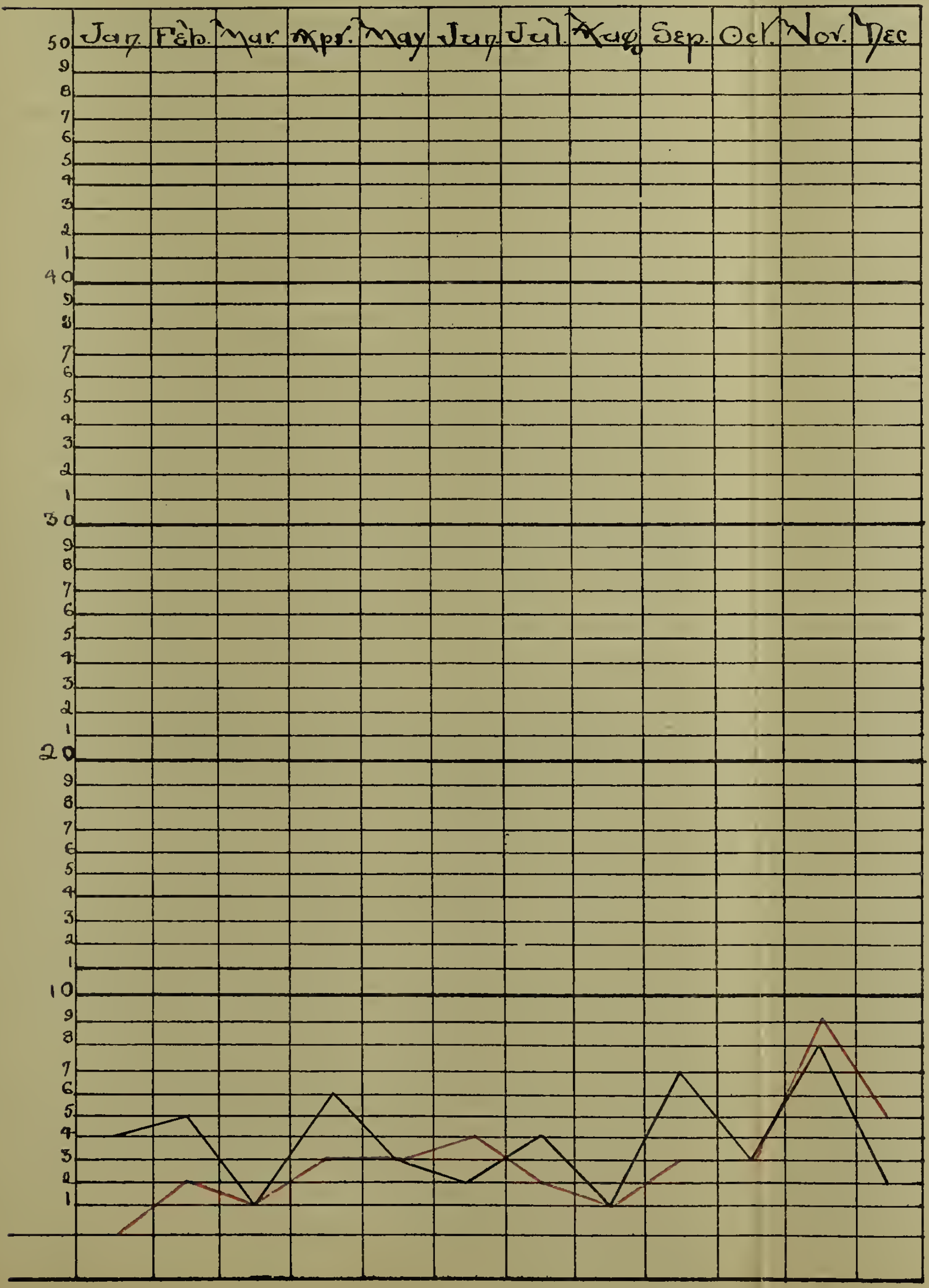
— Scarlet Fever marked in "Black". —

— Typhoid " " " "Red" —

Chart 8

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED

—1895—



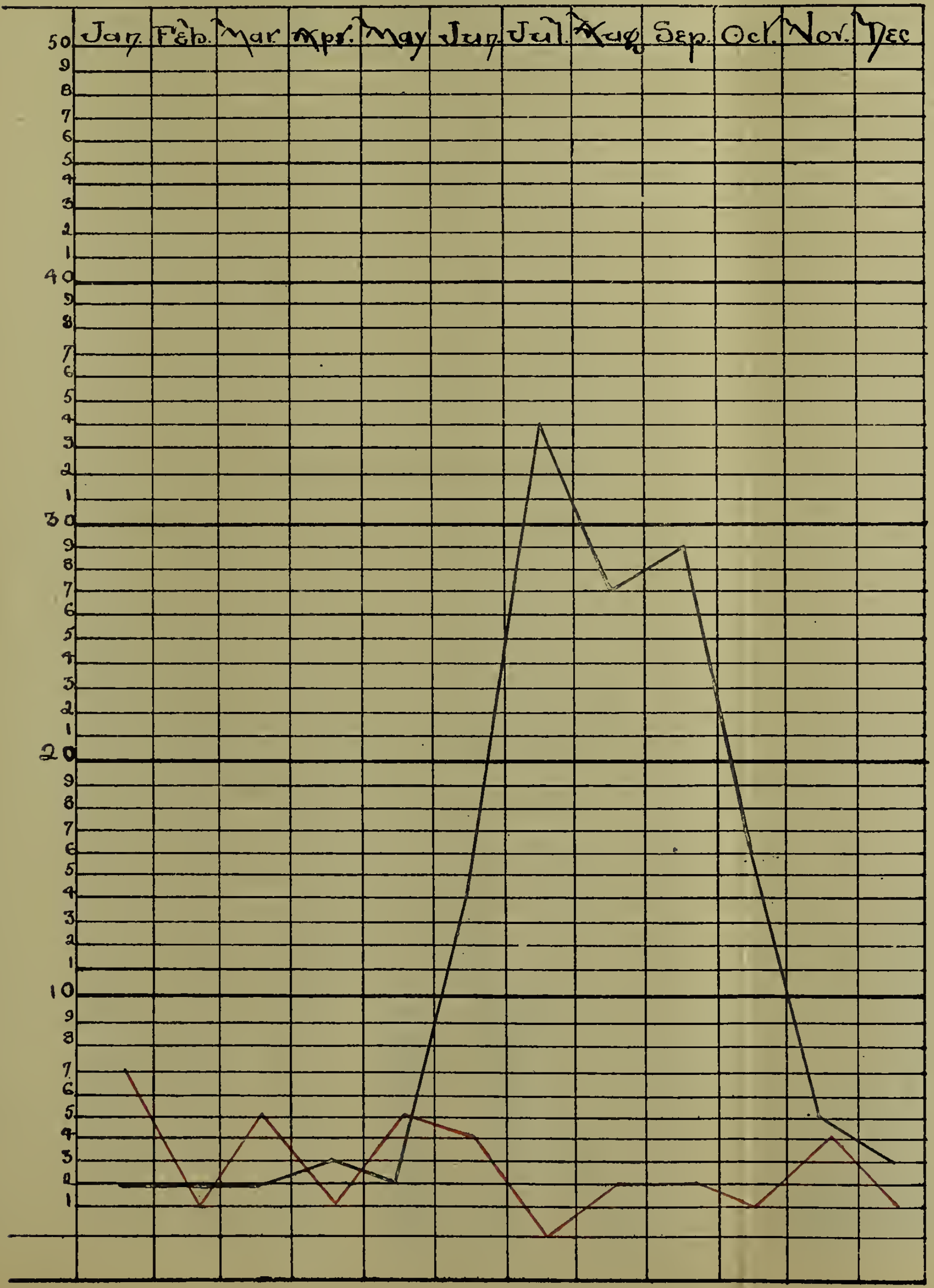
— Scarlet Fever marked in "Black". —

— Typhoid " " "Red" —

Chart 9

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED

—1896—

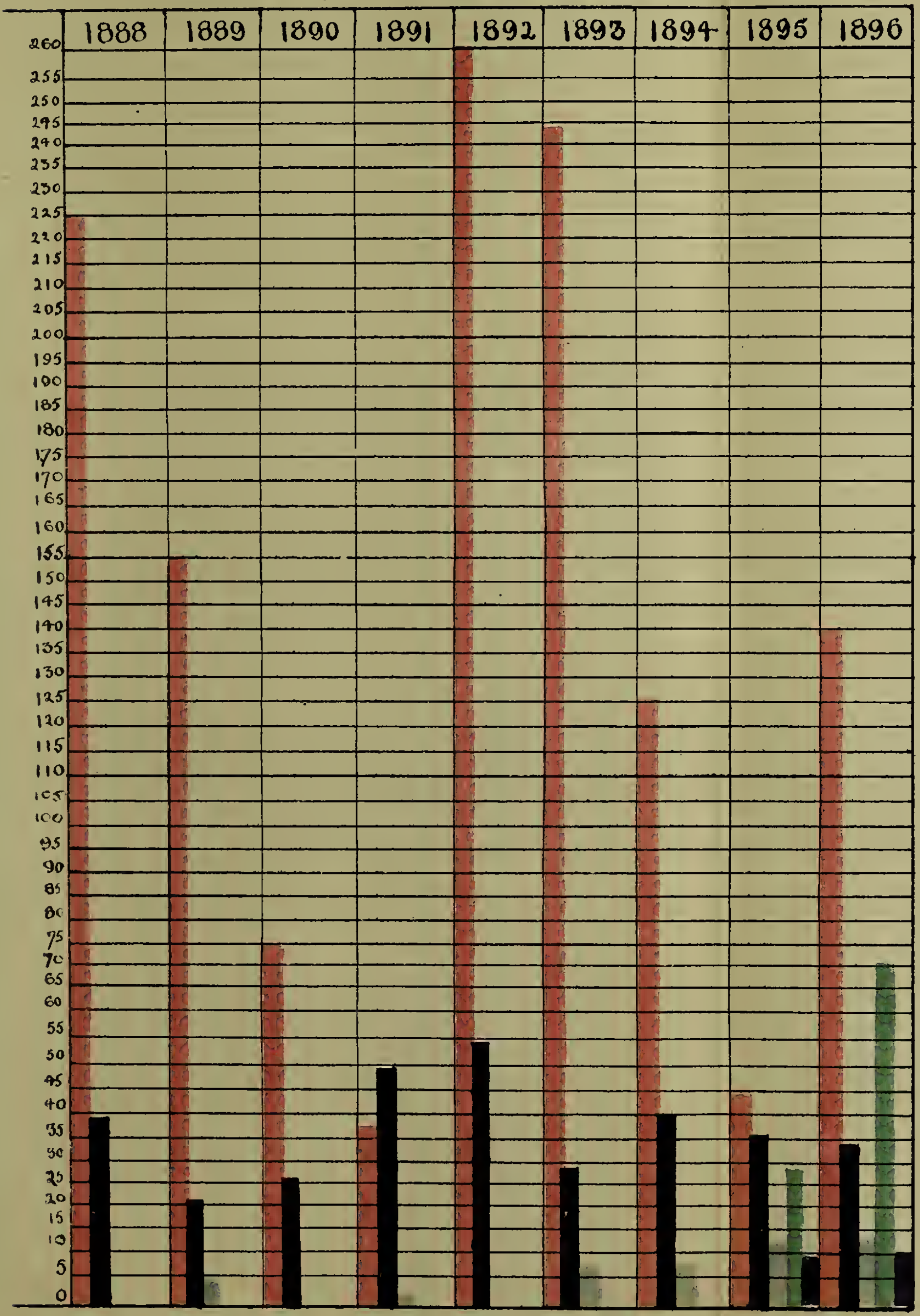


— Scarlet Fever marked in "Black". —

— Typhoid " " " "Red" —

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED

during the undermentioned years.



— Scarlet Fever marked in Red —
— Typhoid " " " Black. —
Diphtheria – Blue Erysipelas – Green. Puerperal in Purple.

1888, 1889, 1892, 1893, and 1896 were epidemic, and 1890, 1891, 1894 and 1895 were remarkable for the comparative absence of the disease in an epidemic form, that is, the malady is with us for two years; then there are two years of rest. The following two years are again marked by an epidemic, to be again followed by the two periods of rest, and following that sequence the ninth year of these observations proves the regular order of these visitations by being marked as epidemic, so that we have every reason for believing that, as in past times, the present year will not vary from the general rule, and we may, therefore, expect another visitation.

To be forewarned is to be forearmed, and I, therefore, propose to try to show you how last year's cases were developed, and to give you my opinion how to meet this emergency before it gets too late and too ponderous to deal with.

The first case was reported from Joseph street on January 27th, but I could not trace it to any source. On February 2nd two more occurred, one in Greenfield street and the other in Redearth road.

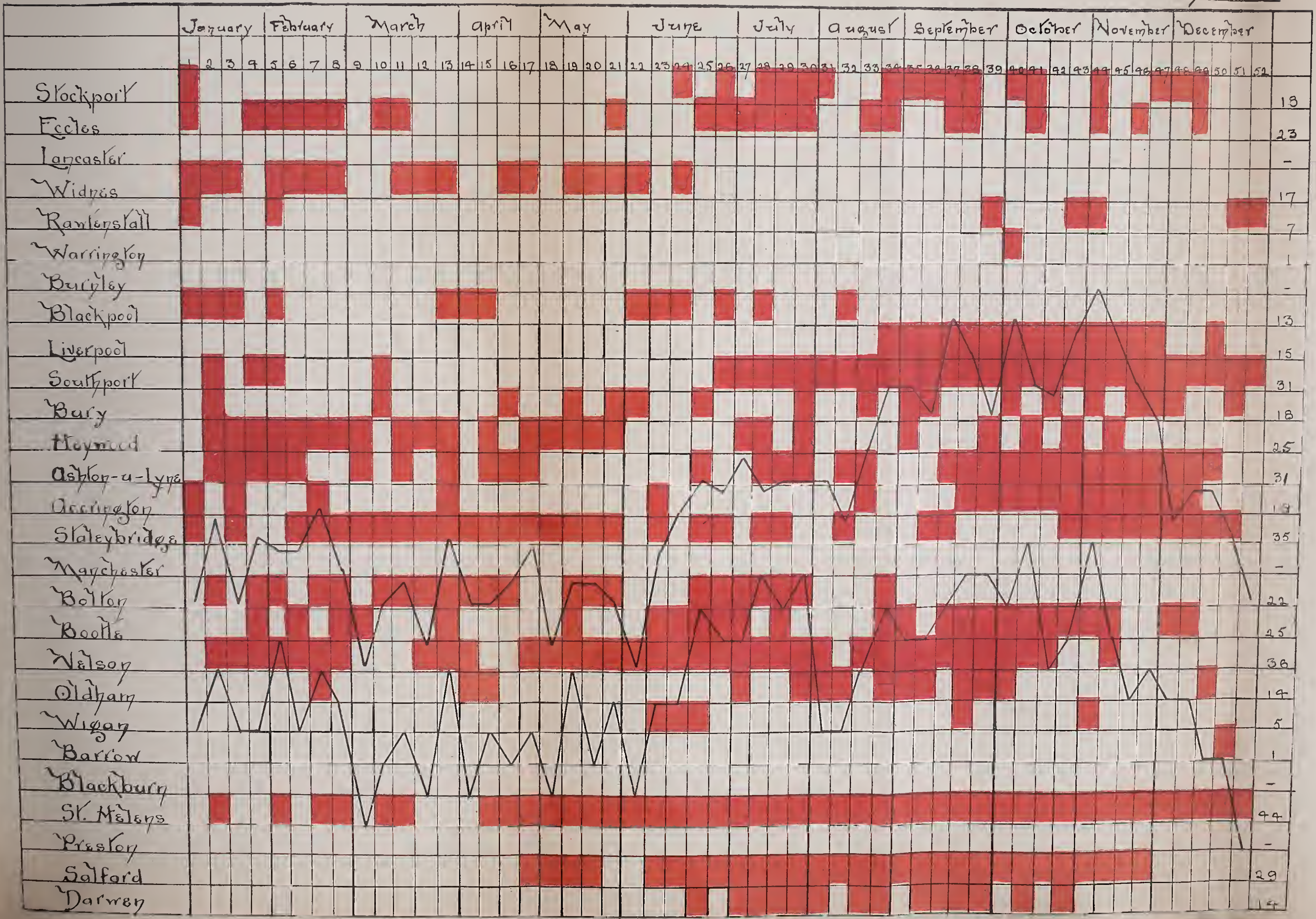
On March 13th another case in Joseph street, which had probably developed from the first one; and on the following day there was one notified in Olive lane. These cases were isolated ones, and generally speaking, so far as I could ascertain, had no connection with each other; probably the two last cases mentioned had both attended the same school.

On April 1st a case was reported in Watery lane, this child attending Culvert School, and on the 30th another one also attending the same school, but living in Bolton road. At this stage I proposed to the Committee that these two cases should be sent to the Hospital, and the families either quarantined or carefully watched, but it was considered too premature to burden the hospital with patients and the town with expense. Following this there was another case reported in Alma street, also attending Culvert School, so by this time there were four centres of infection. Another child became infected, on June 2nd, in the same house in Bolton road, this one being a teacher at Bolton road Schools. Although prohibited attending school she came in contact with other teachers and some of the scholars, and so the disease was no doubt carried from house to school, and thence to other houses in other parts of the town. Without going into any more particulars I find that in nearly all the cases which followed there was some direct connection, either through the schools, or else through the close proximity of the infected houses. The disease gradually spread to other parts of the town, but was more rampant at the Southern end, where the Culvert School is situated.

It seems evident from the experience of the last few years that we may expect Scarlet Fever to be again amongst us this year. Although so far we have not had any cases reported, a careful watch is being kept on the suspected spots for any appearance of the disease, and prompt measures will be at once taken to prevent any spreading, but it is utterly impossible to exercise a strict supervision over the children during the period of desquamation, and when they feel well enough to run about the streets. The only plan is to isolate in the Hospital the earliest cases reported, and to thoroughly disinfect the clothing of the patients and the rooms which they have used. Until this is done we may continue to have the periodic epidemics which have characterised the last few years, but strong and vigorous measures used at the earliest sign of the approach of the disease will most probably cut short the attack before reaching epidemic proportions, and thus save a lot of suffering, expense, etc., and probably many lives. The reason for the disease appearing every second year, and staying with us two years is to be found in the fact that children from two to five years are more susceptible than at any other age, and thus they become victims at an early period of this susceptible age. Then in the second epidemic year, those children who are older, and have arrived at the school age, but who have escaped the previous year, are now attacked. Then follows two years of rest, during which another crop, so to speak, of susceptible subjects is arriving at the age at which the disease is most incidental.

By the accompanying diagram I have endeavoured to show you the incidence of Scarlet Fever during the year 1896 in 26 Lancashire towns (including Darwen), and one other town closely allied in position and customs, as collected from the returns of the Local Government Board. The squares marked red show the weeks in which there were in the proportion of fourteen (or more) cases per 100,000 of the popu-

Chart 11


January
February
March
April
May
June
July
August
September
October
November
December
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52
Stockport
Eccles
Lancaster
Widnes
Rawtenstall
Warrington
Burnley
Blackpool
Liverpool
Southport
Bury
Heywood
Ashton-u-Lyne
Accrington
Staleybridge
Manchester
Bolton
Bootle
Nelson
Oldham
Wigan
Barrow
Blackburn
St. Helens
Preston
Salford
Darwen
18
23
–
17
7
1
–
13
15
31
18
25
31
19
35
–
22
25
36
14
5
1
–
44
–
29
14

lation notified for that week. This I call the "epidemic" proportion, in order to show each town on an equal footing. Not that it represents an epidemic in the true sense of the word, but for the sake of accuracy.

The numbers in the right hand column tell the number of weeks in the year during which the disease was epidemic, i.e., that there were 14 (or more) per 100,000 of the population which had been attacked. It will be seen that St. Helens stood at the top with 44 weeks out of the 52, extending continuously from the beginning of April to the end of the year, and at the other end of the scale stood Warrington and Barrow, with one week each. In Darwen there were fourteen weeks in which the disease was epidemic, and which represents 5 cases or more being reported during each of these 14 weeks.

One peculiar feature which this diagram brings out is that Lancaster, Burnley, Manchester, Blackburn and Preston show a perfect immunity from this disease during the whole of the year, but this is, of course, only a comparative statement, as each town had more or less cases, only fewer in number than the proportion spoken of, viz., 14 per 100,000 of the population, but it is significant that in these towns the number of attacks was kept below the epidemic line.

The upper curve shows the course of the disease throughout the year according to the total number of cases reported each week, and the lower curve indicates this course according to the number of towns marked in red, in which the disease was epidemic on the standard above mentioned. It will be seen then from this that this disease has run the ordinary course.

For the purpose of comparing the Sickness Rate with that of other towns, I have given in Table V. the rate per 1,000 of the population of Infectious cases reported during the last year in 26 towns, exclusive of Darwen, these rates being calculated on the population at the last Census.

TABLE V.

TOWNS.									FEVERS.															
	Smallpox.		Scarlet Fever.		Diphtheria.		Croup.		Typhus.		Typhoid.		Continued.		Relapsing.		Puerperal.		Cholera.		Erysipelas.	
	Notified.	Rate per 1,000.	Notified.	Rate per 1,000.	Notified	Rate per 1,000.	Notified.	Rate per 1,000.	Notified.	Rate per 1,000.	Notified.	Rate per 1,000.	Notified.	Rate per 1,000.	Notified.	Rate per 1,000.	Notified.	Rate per 1,000.	Notified.	Rate per 1,000	Notified.	Rate per 1,000.
Liverpool	8	·01	3550	5·63	445	·70	88	·13	294	·46	984	1·56	87	·13	4	·006	57	·09	..	..	1366	2·04
Manchester	1	·001	2379	4·70	219	·43	38	·007	1	·001	508	1·00	..	..	..	..	25	04	..	..	..	..
Oldham	27	·20	765	5·81	59	·44	..	..	2	·01	120	·91	..	..	..	..	17	·12	..	..	..	..
Preston	..	..	101	·94	34	·31	..	..	..	..	131	1·21	..	..	..	..	14	·13	..	..	134	1 24
Salford	5	·02	538	2 71	152	·76	27	·13	4	·02	295	1·48	16	08	..	..	25	·12	..	..	115	·58
Bolton	1	·008	778	6·76	30	·26	..	..	..	..	177	1·19	..	..	..	..	10	·08	..	..	..	..
Burnley...........	1	·01	107	1·22	146	1·67	..	..	..	..	105	1·20	..	..	..	..	13	·14	..	..	89	1·02
Blackburn	..	..	284	2·35	22	·18	6	·04	..	..	148	1·22	..	..	..	..	15	·12	..	..	..	..
Bootle	1	·02	310	6·29	17	·34	6	·12	1	·02	137	2·78	1	·02	..	..	12	·24	..	..	60	1·01
St Helens	..	..	1270	17·83	59	·82	8	·11	..	..	153	2·14	4	·05	..	..	12	·16	..	..	135	1 89
Southport	..	..	474	11·44	26	·62	..	..	..	..	19	·45	1	·02	..	..	6	·14	..	..	14	·33
Wigan	35	·63	153	3·78	9	·16	..	..	18	·32	102	1·85	3	·05	..	..	7	12	..	..	..	..
Warrington	1	·01	112	2·12	7	·13	1	·01	..	..	32	·60	1	·01	..	..	4	·07	..	..	16	·30
Bury	1	·01	362	6·32	27	·47	..	..	..	..	32	·55	15	·26	..	..	2	·03	..	..	..	..
Ashton-under-Lyne	..	..	267	6·60	16	·39	2	·04	..	..	40	·98	29	·71	1	·02	7	·17	1	·02	..	..
Accrington	..	..	178	4·87	39	1·01	2	·05	..	..	51	1·32	1	·02	1	·02	1	·02	..	..	1	·02
Barrow	..	..	123	2·37	42	·81	6	·11	..	..	35	·67	15	·29	..	..	1	·01	..	..	66	1·27
Eccles	..	..	196	6·62	27	·91	..	..	..	..	63	2·12	..	..	..	..	5	·16	..	..	24	81
Lancaster	7	·22	27	·86	7	·22	..	..	1	·03	61	1 96	..	..	..	..	1	·03	..	..	..	..
Widnes	1	·03	146	4·86	6	1·99	10	·33	..	..	220	7·33	4	·13	2	·06	4	·13	1	03	34	1·13
Stockport	..	..	359	5·11	36	·51	5	·07	..	..	81	1·15	8	·11	..	..	3	·04	..	..	35	·49
Heywood	13	·56	149	6·45	15	·64	..	..	..	..	14	·60	..	..	..	..	2	·08	..	..	..	..
Staleybridge	..	..	207	7·75	13	·48	3	·11	2	·07	25	·93	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	·67
Rawtenstall	..	..	89	3·01	27	·91	7	·23	..	..	29	·98	1	·03	..	..	6	·20	..	..	33	·11
Nelson	..	..	223	9·82	12	·52	..	..	..	..	18	·79	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Blackpool	..	..	203	8·53	6	·25	..	..	..	..	59	2·47	..	..	..	..	..	·04	..	..	..	..
Darwen	..	..	141	4·12	5	·14	7	·20	..	..	34	·09	3	·08	..	..	10	·29	..	..	70	2·05

SMALLPOX appeared in 13 of these towns, as against 17 for the year before.

SCARLET FEVER was general throughout the county. 16 towns show a higher rate than Darwen; in 1895 there were 23 towns in that position.

In my previous remarks I showed that Manchester escaped the epidemic wave, and yet the rate was for the year higher than in Darwen. This seeming anomaly is explained by the fact that the epidemic here was not of long duration, whilst in Manchester the cases were spread over the whole year, thus giving a high total at the end. St. Helens stood at the top of the list with 17.83 per 1,000, whilst Darwen was 4.12 per 1,000. The rate for Darwen for 1895 was 1.37 per 1,000.

DIPHTHERIA.—Warrington was the only town with a less rate than we had.

CROUP.—15 towns notified Croup during the year. There were only two of them with a higher rate than Darwen.

TYPHUS FEVER.—Eight towns had cases of this disease notified, Liverpool taking the lead with 294, and Wigan coming second with 18. During 1895 there were only three towns infected. As this is purely a disease of poverty and filth it is difficult to account for this.

TYPHOID FEVER.—Here a most gratifying thing is shown, and a matter I have mentioned previously, viz., the very low Sickness Rate which Darwen exhibited, being the lowest of all the 27 towns mentioned.

CONTINUED FEVER has been notified in 15 of the towns. This represents very often mild cases of Typhoid, and if added to the previous column, Darwen still ranks the lowest. For Continued Fever seven of the towns show a lower rate.

RELAPSING FEVER was reported in four of the towns.

PUERPERAL FEVER is not notified in all the towns, and in none, am I aware, are the same conditions imposed as here, consequently a strict comparison cannot be made. In 1895 the rate was 0.23 per 1,000.

ERYSIPELAS showed a decided increase here, as compared with 1895, being 2.05 per 1,000, as against 0.78 for the former year. For this I am unable to account, and there does not seem any likelihood of the disease abating.

Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Continued Fever, and Erysipelas all show an increase over the previous year.

As many mild cases of fever, especially Scarlet, were not attended by medical men, and consequently not notified, the following notice was issued with a view to securing this.

The attention of the Public is hereby drawn to the following provisions of the Darwen Corporation Act, 1887, namely—

In order to secure that due notice be given to the Corporation of any inmate of any building used for human habitation who is suffering from any Infectious Disease defined by the said Act as meaning and including the following diseases, namely—Smallpox, Cholera, Typhus, Typhoid, Scarlet, Relapsing, Continued, and Puerperal Fever; Scarlatina, Diphtheria, Membraneous Croup, and Erysipelas, the following provisions shall take effect (that is to say)—

If any such inmate be suffering from any Infectious Disease the occupier or the person having the charge management or control of such building (or if such occupier or person be prevented by reason of such disease then the person in charge of such inmate) shall so soon as he shall become aware of the existence in any such inmate of any such disease forthwith give notice thereof to the Medical Officer of Health at his office:*

If such inmate be not a member of the family of such occupier or person the head of the family (resident in such building) to which such inmate belongs or if there be no such head or if such head be prevented by illness then such inmate (unless prevented by reason of such disease or of youth) shall on becoming aware of the existence in such inmate or in his own person as the case may be of such disease forthwith give notice thereof to such occupier or person.

It having come to the knowledge of the Corporation that householders have neglected to comply with the above provisions, this Notice is given calling attention to the provisions of the Act, and that any person who shall wilfully offend against the enactment is for every such offence liable to a penalty not exceeding Forty Shillings, and in future such person will be summoned without further notice.

By Order,

CHARLES COSTEKER, Town Clerk.

6th July, 1896.

* The Medical Officer's Office is in the Market Square.

I also sent out instructions for the guidance of parents and persons in charge of Infectious cases generally, of which the following is a copy:—

With a view to lessen the mortality from Infectious Diseases—particularly from Measles and Scarlet Fever—the attention of Parents and others is drawn to the following simple precautions, which should in all cases be adopted.

Communication with infected Houses or persons should be carefully avoided.

The house, back-yard, lobby, gullies and ashpit should be kept as clean as possible.

If the disease be contracted, the patient—if not removed to hospital—should be at once placed in a bedroom removed as far as possible from the living rooms of the house, furnished with a fireplace, and from which all carpets, bedhangings, etc., have been removed.

The mother, or some other person, should act as nurse, and should associate as little as possible with the other members of the household.

Visitors, especially children, should not be allowed to enter the sick room.

No books must be obtained from Public Libraries.

Disinfectants should be freely used about the house, and all articles of clothing, eating utensils, &c., should be placed in water containing some disinfectant before being removed from the sick room.

The patient's discharges, especially in the case of Typhoid Fever, should be received in a utensil containing a disinfectant.

Pieces of rag which can at once be burnt should in all cases be used instead of pocket handkerchiefs.

Medical advice should be obtained on the first appearance of the disease, and the instructions of the medical attendant should be carefully followed.

Many deaths occur from the neglect to obtain such assistance until too late.

It should be remembered that all cases, however mild, are capable of spreading infection, and that a severe case may be the result of contact with a mild one.

During the illness, and for some time afterwards, when the patient is convalescent, great care should be taken to avoid danger from colds.

After recovery, or death, the house should be thoroughly fumigated and cleansed. Applications should be made to the Sanitary Office, Market House. Disinfectants may be obtained free at the Sanitary Yard, Corporation Stables.

NOTE.—By the Public Health Act, 1875, a penalty not exceeding £5 is imposed for exposure of infected persons or things. This applies to selling or pawning infected articles.

F. G. HAWORTH,

September, 1896. Medical Officer of Health.

On the occurrence of a case of infectious disease the Inspector at once proceeds to the house, and makes full enquiries as to the age, occupation, and school attended by the patient, also the milk and food supply. In the case of Typhoid Fever a special pail is used for the excreta, and this is removed and emptied once a day, and a fresh pail left in its place. A copy of the following instructions is also left:—

TYPHOID FEVER.

1.—A person suffering from Typhoid Fever should be isolated, and no one allowed to enter the room except the doctor and the one in charge.

2.—The room should be stripped of all unnecessary articles, and anything which might be damaged by disinfection.

3.—As the greatest danger lies in the discharges, such as urine and motions, of the affected person, these should be collected in an article containing disinfecting fluid, and at once removed and put into the pail supplied by the Corporation; this also should contain disinfecting fluid.

This pail should not be used by anyone else. Any neglect on the part of the Corporation Officials to remove this pail and supply a fresh one should be reported to the Medical Officer of Health.

4.—All cloths or anything else of no value which may be soiled by the above discharges should be burnt.

5.—All articles used in connection with the food and drink, and utensils soiled by the discharges of the patient, should be at once washed with soap and hot water before being used by anyone else.

6.—When the clothing, sheets, &c., become soiled, or are changed, they should be put to steep in hot water, to which has been added some disinfecting fluid, and afterwards washed as soon as possible.

7.—Food and drinks should not be kept in the sick room.

8.—All milk should be boiled before being used.

9.—If information is sent to the Sanitary Department, Market House, of the termination of a case, the room will be fumigated, and all bedding, etc., disinfected free of charge.

NOTICE.—Any person exposing himself or herself whilst in an infective condition is liable to a fine.

Disinfectants are supplied free by the Corporation.

SCARLET FEVER.

1.—Remove from the bedroom everything that is not absolutely necessary, and all articles that may be damaged by disinfection.

2.—Isolate the patient, and do not allow any person to enter the room except the doctor and the one who has to nurse him or her.

3.—As the discharges from the eyes, nose, and mouth, are very infectious, only cloths which can be burnt should be used to wipe these away.

4.—The danger of infection is not over until all the skin has peeled off, which may take about six weeks; so the patient should be isolated for this period.

5.—All articles used in the sick room—such as cups, glasses, &c.—should be thoroughly washed with soap and hot water before being used by any other person.

6.—All clothes and bedding which have been used by the patient should be put at once into hot water, into which has been put some disinfecting fluid.

7.—Food and drinks should not be kept in the sick room.

8.—If information is sent to the Sanitary Department, Market House, of the termination of a case, the room will be fumigated, and all bedding, etc., disinfected free of charge.

9.—Children from an infected house are not allowed to go to school until the house has been declared free from infection.

NOTICE.—Any person exposing himself or herself whilst in an infective condition is liable to a fine.

Disinfectants are supplied by the Corporation free of charge.

On March 18th, I recommended the closure of Sandhills Schools for three weeks on account of Measles, and on the 20th the Belgrave Schools to be closed for the same period.

On April 4th, the Infant department of the Culvert School was recommended to be closed on account of Whooping Cough.

September 11th, the whole of the Culvert Schools were recommended to be closed, as 38 per cent. of the children were absent through Scarlet Fever and Measles, the schools to remain closed for six weeks.

In all the above cases the recommendations were adopted, and the schools closed for the periods named.

In September, I made arrangements with the School Board officials to supply me each morning with the names and addresses of all the children absent from school through Infectious Diseases. The homes of these children are at once visited by the Inspectors, all particulars are gathered, and every precaution taken to prevent the disease spreading. By this means cases which are not being attended by medical practitioners are brought to my notice, and thus by an early intimation of the presence and whereabouts of Infectious cases prompt measures may be taken, and probably the necessity for closing the schools avoided.

DEATHS.

TABLE VI.

Population as per Census enumerated.	Estimated Population to Middle of Year.	Births.	Deaths from all Causes.	Deaths under 1 year.	Deaths 1 to 5.	Deaths 5 to 15.	Deaths 15 to 25.	Deaths 25 to 60.	Deaths 60 years and upwards
	1886 32,185	965	641	187	154	28	29	135	108
	1887 32,491	1000	716	188	139	60	35	174	120
	1888 33,500	994	600	154	118	32	33	145	118
1881 29,747	1889 34,500	972	544	149	90	16	31	161	107
	1890 36,500	1075	673	184	68	28	30	196	167
	1891 34,500	1115	660	168	115	32	26	193	126
1891 34,192	1892 35,000	1057	641	177	85	35	64	175	105
	1893 35,600	955	677	184	101	40	44	167	141
	1894 36,000	1039	542	130	67	17	46	174	108
	1895 36,000	1128	640	179	92	16	43	186	124
	1896 36,652	1032	627	187	102	17	26	163	132

There were 627 deaths registered during the year, viz., 297 males and 330 females. This gives an annual Death Rate of 17.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population of 36,652.

TABLE VII.

Shows the Diseases and Age Periods at which the people died.

DISEASES.	Under 1 Year		1 to 5		5 to 15		15 to 25		25 to 35		35 to 45		45 to 60		60 and Upwards.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Circulatory System.																		
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	...	3	1	1	5	9	4	6	10	24
Phlebitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Syncope	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Angina Pectoris	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
						1	1	4		3	1	1	5	9	6	6	13	24
Respiratory System.																		
Bronchitis	22	14	10	18	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	3	3	5	15	43	51
Pneumonia	3	6	5	4	1	1	1	...	4	...	5	...	5	2	3	...	27	13
Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Croup	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Pulmonary Apoplexy	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Atelectasis	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Hæmoptysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congestion of Lungs	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Asphyxia	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	27	22	17	23	3	1	1	1	5	2	7	...	8	5	8	16	76	70
Digestive System.																		
Acute Gastritis	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	1	2	6
Gastro-Enteritis	9	8	4	4	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	15	14
Gastric Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
Enteritis	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Stricture of Rectum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Peri-typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	1	3	1
Occlusion of Hepatic duct	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Hepatitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	1
Congestion of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Inanition	5	13	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	15
Peritonitis	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1
	16	23	4	7	1	1	1	1	1	...	2	4	4	4	3	4	32	44

TABLE VII.—*Continued.*

DISEASES.	Under 1 Year M.	Under 1 Year F.	1 to 5 M.	1 to 5 F.	5 to 15 M.	5 to 15 F.	15 to 25 M.	15 to 25 F.	25 to 35 M.	25 to 35 F.	35 to 45 M.	35 to 45 F.	45 to 60 M.	45 to 60 F.	60 and Upwards. M.	60 and Upwards. F.	Total. M.	Total. F.
Developmental Diseases.																		
Imperforate Anus	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Dentition	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Premature Birth	16	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	9
Spina Bifida	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	17	12	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	12
Constitutional Diseases.																		
Rheumatism	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	3	1	8
Tuberculosis	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Phthisis	1	...	...	1	...	...	3	4	4	...	5	2	6	1	2	...	21	8
Anæmia	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	1	1	1	2	1	2	3	7	4	3	5	4	6	2	2	3	23	24
Urinary System.																		
Bright's Disease	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	2	1	...	1	3	4	8	7
Cystitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	3	...
	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	2	1	1	1	5	4	11	7
Lymphatic System.																		
Exophthalmic Goître ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Integumentary Diseases.																		
Eczema	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Osseous System.																		
Caries of Bone	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...

TABLE VII.—*Continued.*

DISEASES.	Under 1 Year		1 to 5		5 to 15		15 to 25		25 to 35		35 to 45		45 to 60		60 and Upwards.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Nervous System.																		
Congestion of the Brain.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1
Spinal Sclerosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Humiplegia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...
Paralysis Aqcaus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Apoplexy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	4	6	4	12	10	20
Convulsion	7	7	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	9
Meningitis	4	3	3	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	11	7
Spinal Apoplexy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Paralysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...
Hydroaphalus	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Uramic Eclampsia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	11	11	3	6	3	...	...	...	1	2	1	2	9	7	8	12	36	40
Zymotic Diseases.																		
Whooping Cough	5	10	6	5	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	17
Diphtheria	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Diarrhœa	8	6	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	8
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	5	3
Scarlet Fever	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Measles	2	1	4	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	8
	15	17	14	18	...	3	...	...	3	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	34	41
Septic Diseases.																		
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	6
Pyæmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Erysipelas	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Septicœmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	3	...	2	...	...	...	...	3	8

TABLE VII.—*Continued.*

DISEASES.	Under 1 Year		1 to 5		5 to 15		15 to 25		25 to 35		35 to 45		45 to 60		60 and Upwards.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
New Growths.																		
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	3	5	4	8
Cancer of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1
Tumour of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Tumour of Brain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1
Tumour of Uterus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2
Epithelioma	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Larcoma	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Tumour	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	6	4	8	7	15
General Diseases.																		
Senile Decay	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	14	14	14	15
Debility	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Acute Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	14	14	15	18
Generative Organs.																		
Parturition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Connective Tissue.																		
Cellulitis	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
The Ear.																		
Otorrhœa	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Otitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Injuries	...	2	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	1	1	10	7
Inquests	1	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	5	...	4	2	11	5
Uncertified	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	2
Surgical Operation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
	2	5	3	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	10	4	6	3	23	15
Total	93	94	44	58	9	8	10	16	19	16	20	18	46	44	56	76	297	230
	187		102		17		26		35		38		90		132		627	

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 187 deaths of children under 12 months. This is at the rate of 181 for every 1,000 births, or 5.1 per 1,000 of the population, and equals 29.8 per cent. of the total deaths.

Deaths of Children (under 1 year)—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Premature Birth	16	9	25
Convulsions	7	7	14
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	25	19	44
Diarrhœa	8	6	14
Measles	2	1	3
Whooping Cough	5	10	15
Inanition	5	13	18
All other Diseases	25	29	54
	93	94	187

TABLE VIII.

Deaths of Infants (under 1 year)—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Zymotic Diseases	15	17	32
Diatetic Diseases	—	—	—
Constitutional Diseases	1	1	2
Developmental Diseases	17	12	29
Septic Diseases	1	1	2
Respiratory Diseases	27	22	49
Local Diseases—			
Nervous System	11	11	22
Circulatory System	—	—	—
Digestive System	16	23	39
Lymphatic System	—	—	—
Other Causes	5	7	12
	93	94	187

INANITION caused 18 deaths, as compared with 27 for 1895. This is no doubt due in imperfect feeding during the first twelve months of life. The importance of using the child's natural food cannot be over-estimated, and where this is not available, either through failure of the mother's milk, or because she has to be absent at work for a greater part of the day, great care should be exercised in the preparation of the substitute as well as in the thorough cleansing of the bottles and other utensils used.

PREMATURE BIRTH was responsible for 25 deaths, as against 16 in the previous year. This shows strongly the necessity for great care at such a time, and the need there is for mothers to abstain from going to the mill when close upon confinement.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

DIARRHŒA resulted in 18 deaths, being one more than the year before. These occurred in February, March and June, and reached the maximum, viz. seven, in August. Then there were four in September, three in October, and one in November.

This being an autumnal disease points to decomposition, especially in the matter of food, and the propagation of germs in the soil, as a cause. I hope before long to be in the possession of meteorological instruments which will enable me to place before you records which no doubt will show to you the strong relationship of the one with the other.

MEASLES caused 14 deaths, being a great diminution on the year previous. This shows a rate of 0.3 per 1,000 of the population. Three of these occurred amongst infants, and 11 between one and five years, and mostly took place in the first five months of the year.

SCARLET FEVER took away five children, all of them being from 1 to 5 years of age. This is a remarkably good record when we consider that 139 cases were reported; so that out of the number notified there was only 3.6 per cent. of a death-rate.

WHOOPING COUGH, which killed three in 1895, was much more prevalent in the following year, judging from the increased mortality which took place, there being 28 deaths from that disease.

TUBERCULAR DISEASES.—There were 16 deaths from Meningitis of persons under five years of age. These were not returned as Tubercular, but in the absence of more specific causes we may conclude that at least in the majority of cases Tuberculosis played an important part; in the year previous there were 10 deaths from this disease.

CONVULSIONS caused 17 deaths, as compared with 28 in the preceding year. I mentioned in my last report the custom of ascribing this to Dentition; this, in my opinion, is a mistaken cause, which might more correctly be put down to wrong feeding.

TYPHOID FEVER, which out of 36 cases caused 10 deaths in 1895, last year was responsible for eight deaths out of 33 cases reported. With the gradual increase in the number of waste water closets, and the abolition of pails, cesspols, and midden privies, together with greater cleanliness in the matter of back-yards and back streets, I anticipate a still further reduction in the number of these cases.

PUERPERAL FEVER.—We had nine cases reported, and six deaths, showing an exceedingly high rate of mortality. The introduction of specially trained nurses in maternity work will go a long way towards lessening the dangers of infection from this disease, and according to present regulations this will be an establised fact before long.

BRONCHITIS, PNEUMONIA AND PLEURISY contributed 135 deaths, being 12 more than in the previous year; these deaths occurred as follows: Bronchitis 94, Pneumonia 40, Pleurisy 1.

I purposed ascertaining the effect of occupation on these diseases, but so far I have been unable to secure the return of the work followed by deceased persons prior to death.

Deaths of Persons 60 years and upwards :—

Senile Decay	29
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	23
Heart Disease	10
Apoplexy	19
Injuries	2
All other causes	49
	132

TABLE X.—Bronchitis.

Deaths at different age periods for the last six years :—

	Under 1 Year.	1 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 60.	60 and Upwards	TOTAL.
1891………	30	14	2	—	18	40	104
1892………	29	19	—	—	27	30	105
1893………	41	24	3	—	12	29	109
1894………	27	20	—	—	7	17	71
1895………	24	13	—	—	21	26	84
1896………	36	28	—	—	10	20	94
	187	118	5	—	95	162	567

TABLE XI.—Pneumonia.

Deaths at different age periods for the last six years :—

	Under 1 Year.	1 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 60.	60 and Upwards	TOTAL.
1891………	6	15	4	1	44	5	75
1892………	8	5	—	2	25	9	49
1893………	8	8	1	1	24	8	50
1894………	5	4	1	—	19	4	33
1895………	9	4	1	1	15	4	34
1896………	9	9	2	—	17	3	40
	45	45	9	5	144	33	281

TABLE XII.—Consumption.

Deaths at the different age periods for the last six years :—

	Under 1 Year.	1 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 60.	60 and Upwards	TOTAL.
1891………	—	—	—	—	20	3	23
1892………	—	—	1	2	33	1	37
1893………	—	—	—	—	35	4	39
1894………	—	1	1	1	42	0	45
1895………	—	—	—	—	34	4	38
1896………	1	1	—	—	25	2	29
	1	2	2	3	189	14	211

In Tables 10, 11 and 12 I have given the number of deaths from diseases of the respiratory organs at the different age periods. On this question I have nothing to add to my remarks in last report.

TABLE XIII.

Estimated Population, number of Deaths and Death-rates from all causes, and from Zymotic Diseases, of Children under one year, and of persons aged 60 years and upwards, during the last twelve years.

YEAR.	Estimated Population at the Middle of the year.	Total Deaths from all causes.	Death-rate per 1,000 of population.	Total Deaths from seven principal Zymotic Diseases.	Death-rate from Zymotic Diseases per 1,000 of population.	Total Deaths under 1 year old.	Percentage of Deaths under one year to Total Deaths.	Total Deaths of persons aged 60 years and upwards.	Percentage of Deaths of aged persons to total Deaths.
1885	31,720	489	15·4	25	0·78	129	26·3	103	21·0
1886	32,185	641	19·9	109	3·3	187	29·2	108	16·8
1887	32,491	716	22·0	99	3·0	188	26·3	120	16·7
1888	33,500	600	17·9	55	1·9	154	25·6	145	24·1
1889	34,500	554	16·0	70	2·0	149	26·8	107	19·3
1890	36,500	673	18·4	44	1·2	184	27·3	167	24·8
1891	34,192	660	19·1	60	1·7	168	25·4	126	19·0
1892	35,000	641	18·3	67	1·9	177	27·6	105	16·3
1893	35,500	677	19·0	79	2·2	184	27·1	141	20·8
1894	36,000	542	15·0	40	1·1	130	23·9	107	19·7
1895	36,000	640	17·7	77	2·1	179	27·9	124	19·3
1896	36,652	627	17·1	81	2·2	187	29·8	132	21·0

TABLE XIV.

Deaths during the twelve years, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, and 1896, in the Borough of Darwen, under five years of age, and five years and upwards.

	UNDER 5 YEARS OF AGE.												5 YEARS AND UPWARDS.											
	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
Measles	2	63	5	29	6	...	21	...	25	...	41	14	...	3	1	2	...	...	3	...	2	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	2	2	22	8	4	4	2	13	7	2	2	5	1	...	11	2	1	2	2	5	3	2	...	...
Diphtheria	...	2	3	...	1	1	1	..	4	2	...	2	1	4	4	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	4	4	13	2	28	5	2	26	2	17	3	26	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
Croup	4	15	9	13	4	12	17	17	13	1	10	2	6	2	8	5	1	1	3	4	10	2	1	2
Continued Fevers. Typhus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fevers. Typhoid	...	1	1	...	...	1	2	2	...	...	...	...	4	3	10	8	4	4	10	8	7	9	10	8
Continued Fevers. Others	...	...	...	...	...	..	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa and Dysentry	8	22	21	5	2	24	10	5	20	6	18	17	2	4	6	1	19	2	2	3	7	...	3	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	..
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	5	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	3	2
Erysipelas	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	2	1	1	...	3	3	...	2	1	...	1	...	1
Pyæmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	3	5	5
Ague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis	..	1	2	..	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	36	39	41	40	33	31	22	40	44	44	38	28
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy	61	75	72	74	46	66	68	63	84	49	51	82	63	78	91	87	72	158	119	93	82	52	72	53
Heart Disease	...	...	2	1	4	2	1	...	...	...	1	...	22	26	34	32	46	38	27	35	57	47	43	37
Injuries	1	2	6	2	1	4	4	3	1	...	5	2	9	9	13	9	11	10	15	15	13	5	20	15
All other Diseases	126	145	171	133	125	144	153	133	126	118	138	153	128	129	162	136	140	171	171	170	166	180	163	184

TABLE XV.

Lancashire Large Towns.

	General Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.
MANCHESTER	22·0	3·5
SALFORD	22·6	4·1
LIVERPOOL	21·9	3·6
OLDHAM	20·3	2·7
BLACKBURN	17·5	1·0
PRESTON	20·7	1·8
BOLTON	20·7	2·5
BURNLEY	18·0	1·3

Lancashire Smaller Towns.

BOOTLE	20·0	3·2
ST. HELENS	20·5	3·6
SOUTHPORT	14·4	0·9
WIGAN	23·0	4·0
WARRINGTON	18·6	3·0
BURY	19·8	2·7
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE	21·4	2·0
ROCHDALE	19·0	2·1
ACCRINGTON	—	—
BARROW-IN-FURNESS	13·4	1·4
ECCLES	15·7	3·0
LANCASTER	19·6	1·0
LEIGH	21·1	3·3
WIDNES	14·8	1·3
DARWEN	17·1	2·2

TABLE XVI.

ANALYSIS of the Vital and Mortal Statistics of Thirty-three of the Largest English Towns during the Year 1896.

TOWNS.	Estimated Population middle of 1896.	Births.	Deaths.	Annual Rate per 1,000 Living.			Deaths from Principal Zymotic Diseases.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Fever.	Diarrhœa.	Deaths of Children under one year of age to 1,000 Births.	Rate per cent. of Uncertified Deaths.
				Births.	Deaths.	Principal Zymotic Diseases.										
33 Towns …………	10,816,971	339.115	208,534	30·7	18·9	2·86	31,550	25	7,839	2,406	4,202	6,245	2,073	8,760	167	1·5
32 Provincial Towns	6,425,016	203,319	125,023	31·1	19·1	2·67	17,450	16	4,142	1,464	1,519	3,308	1,464	5,537	172	2·1
London ………………	4,421,955	135,796	83,511	30·2	18·6	3·14	14,100	9	3,697	942	2,683	2,937	609	3,223	161	0·6
West Ham ……………	261,297	8,658	4,268	32·6	16·1	3·00	797	4	117	55	187	158	61	215	165	3 7
Croydon ……… ………	118,006	3,009	1,706	25·1	14·2	1·94	233	…	67	5	29	62	18	52	150	…
Brighton …… ……	120,499	3,022	1,975	24·7	16·1	1·63	199	…	55	6	19	32	14	73	135	1·7
Portsmouth …………	178,639	5,006	3,009	27·6	16·6	2·11	383	…	125	20	20	59	27	132	154	0·7
Plymouth ……………	90,276	2,643	1,796	28·8	19·6	2·30	210	…	95	3	13	17	6	76	178	0·5
Bristol………………	230,623	6,465	3,961	27·6	16·9	1·90	444	5	143	59	37	61	18	121	142	1·2
Cardiff………………	162,690	5,591	2.784	33·8	16·8	2·27	376	3	38	28	62	105	13	127	165	1·3
Swansea ………………	98,645	3,061	1,689	30·5	16·8	1·18	118	2	6	4	10	56	15	25	161	1·1
Wolverhampton………	86,530	3,023	1,755	34·4	20·0	3·11	274	…	9	21	53	31	36	124	184	1 3
Birmingham …………	501,241	16,603	10,600	32·6	20·8	3·57	1,823	…	307	148	270	378	107	613	197	5·0
Norwich ………………	108,630	3,400	1,919	30·8	17·4	2·33	257	…	117	4	24	9	21	82	164	1 6
Leicester…… …………	198,659	6,212	3,376	30·8	16·7	2·97	599	…	121	50	64	51	40	273	187	2·7
Nottingham …………	229,775	6,758	4,087	28·9	17 5	2·47	575	…	205	26	13	90	79	162	168	1·4
Derby …………………	101,770	2,901	1,619	28·0	15·7	1·91	197	…	34	11	10	54	21	67	151	0·4
Birkenhead …………	109,343	3,527	2,133	31·7	19·2	2·97	330	…	115	32	22	59	26	76	177	1·0
Liverpool ……………	632,512	22,416	14,617	34·9	22·7	3·01	1,938	…	306	227	157	294	206	748	173	3·4
Bolton………………	120,380	3,831	2,536	31·3	20·7	2·80	344	…	6	40	14	102	48	134	168	0·3
Manchester …………	529,561	17,787	12,184	33·0	22·6	3·42	1,834	…	570	197	81	360	122	504	176	1·3
Salford ……………	210,707	7,480	4,848	34·9	22·6	4·10	879	…	202	104	49	189	71	264	199	2·1
Oldham ……………	143,442	3,971	2,955	27·2	20·3	2·91	425	…	167	56	35	53	23	91	184	0·3
Burnley ……………	102,805	3,245	1,830	31·0	17·5	2·19	229	…	63	4	48	28	13	73	170	1·4
Blackburn …………	129,459	3,649	2,351	27·7	17·9	1·82	238	…	41	9	10	47	34	97	171	2·7
Preston ……………	113,864	3,776	2,403	32·6	20 8	1·86	217	…	4	3	12	43	26	129	203	4·3
Huddersfield … ……	100,463	2,096	1,682	20·5	16·5	1·60	163	…	28	19	21	55	13	27	.166	2·5
Halifax ……………	94,775	2,337	1,669	24·3	17·3	1·10	105	…	16	…	21	33	20	15	149	1·7
Bradford………………	228,809	5,939	3,840	25·5	16·5	1·58	369	1	107	24	17	104	28	88	143	0·8
Leeds ………………	402,449	12,574	7,670	30·7	18·8	2·28	937	1	199	71	49	246	87	284	169	0 6
Sheffield ………………	347,278	12,011	6,797	34·0	19 3	2·91	1,024	…	200	102	56	205	101	360	173	3·5
Hull…………………	220,844	7,171	4,245	31·9	18·9	3·32	745	…	260	57	51	113	62	202	173	2·8
Sunderland……… …	140,386	4,873	2,828	34·2	19·8	3·00	428	…	143	27	8	76	53	121	158	0·9
Gateshead ……………	98,436	3,583	1,910	35·8	19·1	3·10	310	…	137	26	18	35	22	72	172	0·9
Newcastle-on-Tyne …	212,223	6,701	3,981	31·1	18·5	2·08	450	…	139	26	39	103	33	110	165	0·5
DARWEN …………	**36,652**	**1,032**	**627**	**28·1**	**17·1**	**2·2**	**75**	…	**14**	**5**	**2**	**28**	**8**	**18**	**181**	**2·5**

GOVERNMENT FORM A.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1896, in the Darwen Urban Sanitary District, Classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (*Columns for Population and Births are in Table B.*) (*a*) Wards.	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES AT SUBJOINED AGES. At all Ages. (*b*)	Under 1 Year. (*c*)	1 and under 5. (*d*)	5 and under 15. (*e*)	15 and under 25. (*f*)	25 and under 65. (*g*)	65 and upwards (*h*)	(*i*)	MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE. Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS. Typhus.	FEVERS. Enteric or Typhoid.	FEVERS. Continued.	FEVERS. Relapsing.	FEVERS. Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhœa and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia & Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Influenza.	Injuries.	All Other Diseases.	TOTAL.
Central	90	22	19	5	3	25	16	Under 5.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	8	2	...	1	13	...	...	...	14	41
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	6	5	8	...	1	24	49
West Central	69	23	10	2	1	19	14	Under 5.	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	3	...	...	7	...	...	...	19	34
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	4	1	1	4	20	35
North-East	144	49	21	4	7	31	32	Under 5.	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	5	...	1	21	...	...	2	33	70
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	7	11	10	...	1	43	74
North-West	87	25	13	...	4	23	22	Under 5.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	1	...	...	11	...	...	...	21	38
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	8	4	1	2	29	49
South-East	114	42	12	4	2	30	34	Under 5.	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	2	...	...	14	...	...	2	14	42
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	16	6	...	4	41	72
South-West	123	37	27	2	9	34	14	Under 5.	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	6	4	...	...	16	...	...	1	30	64
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	10	5	..	1	29	59
Borough Totals ...	627	187	102	17	26	163	132	Under 5.	...	5	2	2	..	...	...	...	...	...	3	14	26	17	...	2	82	...	...	5	131	289
								5 upwds.	...	...	..	2	...	8	...	...	6	...	...	...	2	1	3	27	54	34	2	13	186	338
																														627

Area and Population of the District or Division to which this Return relates.

Area in Acres, 5,919. Population (1891), 34,192. Population (estimated to middle of 1896), 36,652.

Death-rates: General, 17·1 per 1,000 Population, estimated to middle of 1896; Infant (under one year of age), 181 per 1,000 Births Registered.

GOVERNMENT FORM B.

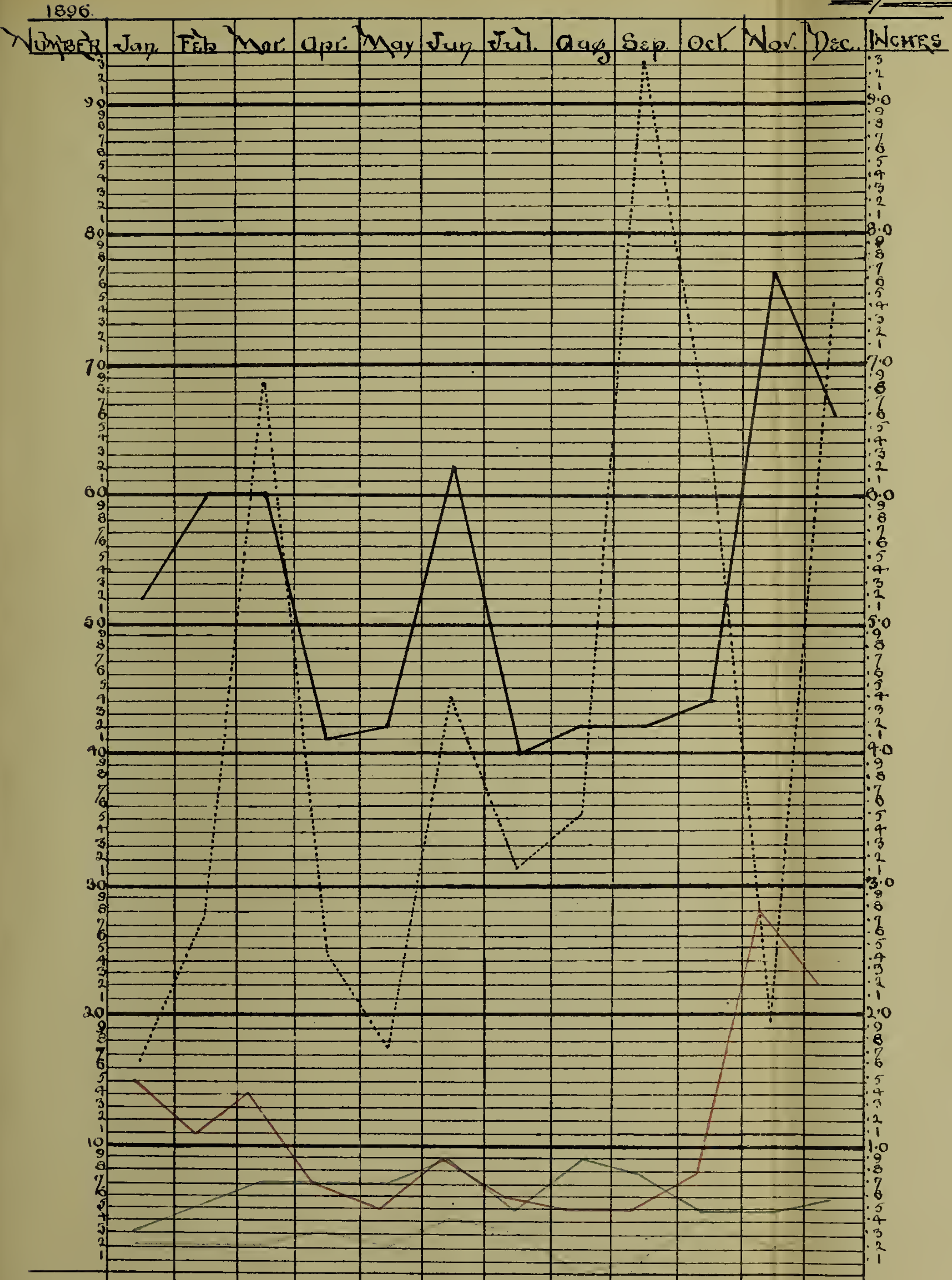
TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the Year 1896, in the Darwen Urban Sanitary District; classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	Population at All Ages.		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.											Number of such Cases Removed from their Homes in the several Localities for Treatment in Isolation Hospital.										
								Fevers.										Fevers.						
(a) Wards.	Census 1891. (b)	Estimated to middle of 1896. (c)	(d)	(e)	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.
Central	6,222	6,970	......	......	......	12	......	3	......	6	1	......	1	......	15	......	......	......	......	...	......	...	...	...	...	......
West Central	3,801	3,865	......	......	......	15	......	......	......	4	......	......	1	......	8	......	......	......	......	...	......	...	...	...	...	......
North-East	7,530	8,735	......	......	......	17	1	1	......	9	1	......	1	......	11	......	......	......	......	...	2	...	...	...	...	......
North-West	4,864	4,964	......	......	......	2	......	1	......	1	......	......	......	......	19	......	......	......	......	...	......	...	...	...	...	1
South-East	5,769	5,733	......	......	......	17	2	1	......	9	......	......	3	......	10	......	......	......	......	...	......	...	...	...	...	......
South-West (H)	6,006	6,385	......	......	......	76	2	1	......	4	1	......	3	......	7	......	3	......	......	...	1	...	...	...	...	......
Totals	34,192	36,652	1032	Under 5	......	66	4	5	......	2	1	......	......	......	3	......	3	......	......	...	3	...	...	...	...	1
				5 upwds.	......	73	1	2	......	31	2	......	9	......	67											
					......	139	5	7	......	33	3	......	9	......	70											

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District—Yes. Since when ?—1887.

Mark (H) the Locality in which the Isolation Hospital is situated.

Chart 12.



Rainfall	1·64	2·75	6·87	2·46	0·76	4·42	3·12	3·52	9·32	6·34	1·97	7·45

Total Number of Deaths .... marked in "Black" ——

" " " " from Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy " " "Red." ——

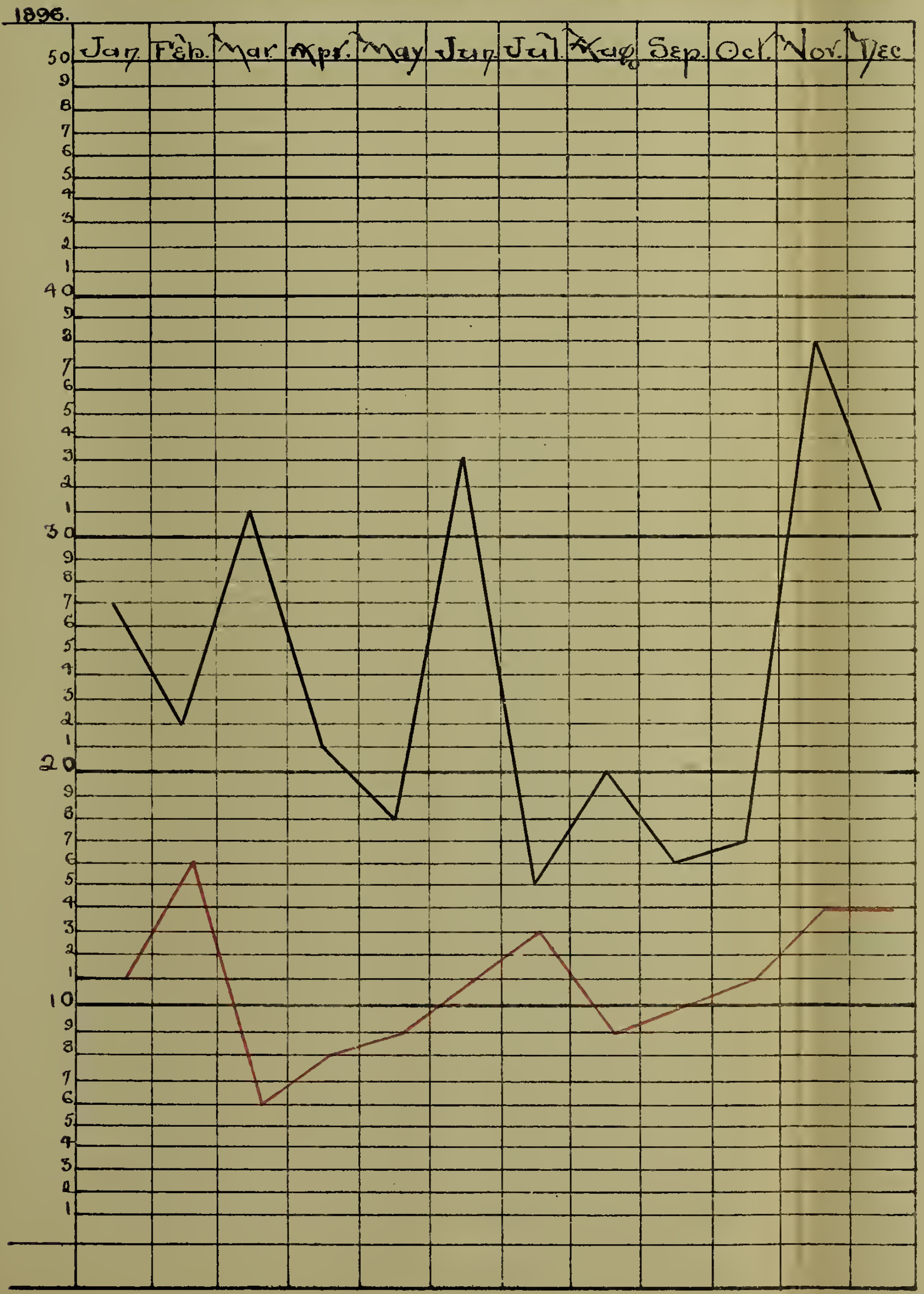
" " " " Consumption " " "Blue" ——

" " " " Zymotic Diseases .... " " Green. ——

The dotted lines shew the Rainfall in inches and tenths.

Chart 13.

TOTAL DEATHS
- of -
Children under "five" and Persons over sixty.



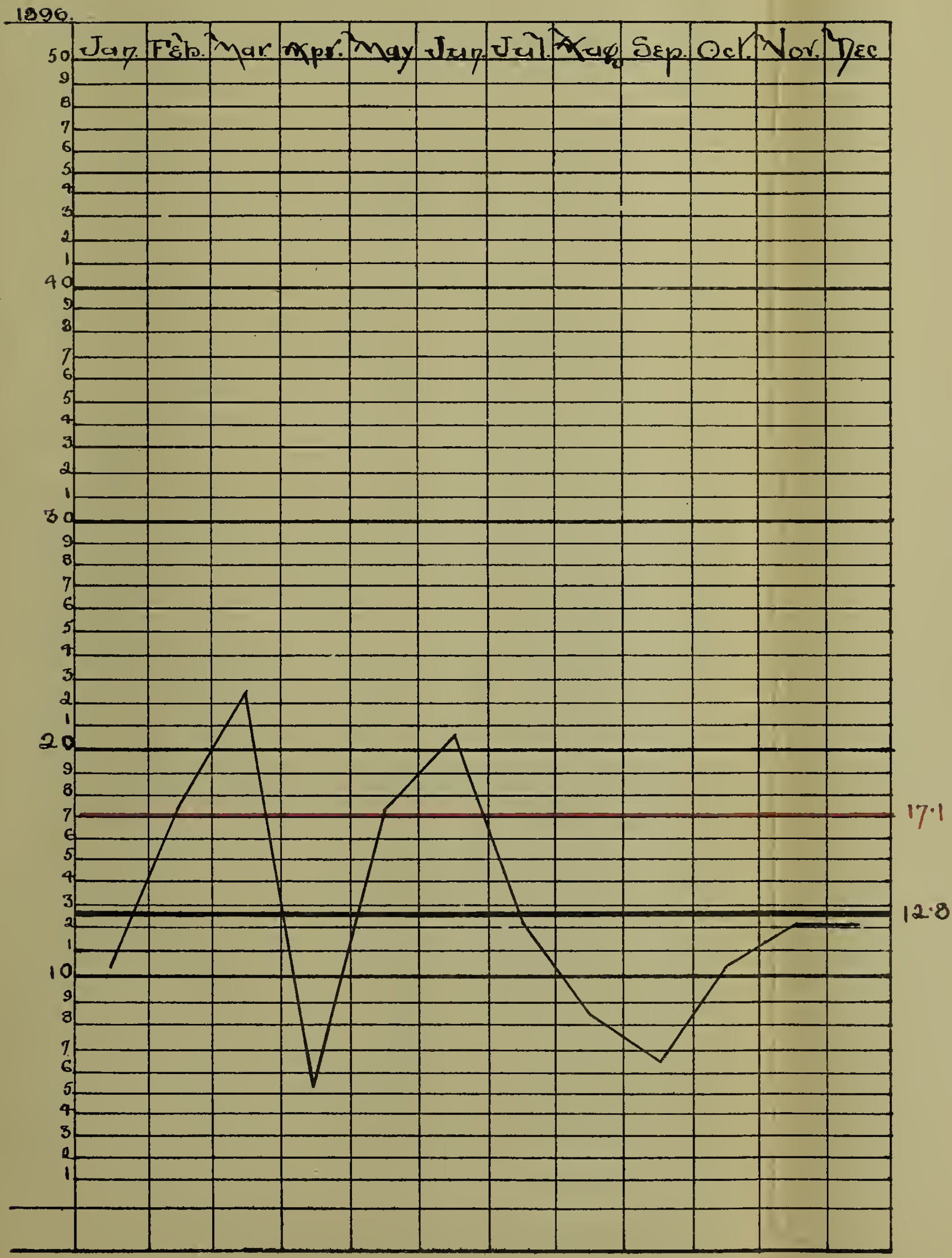
— Children under 5 years marked in "Black". —

Persons 60 and upwards " " "Red"

Chart 14

CENTRAL WARD

Death Rate per 1000 per annum.



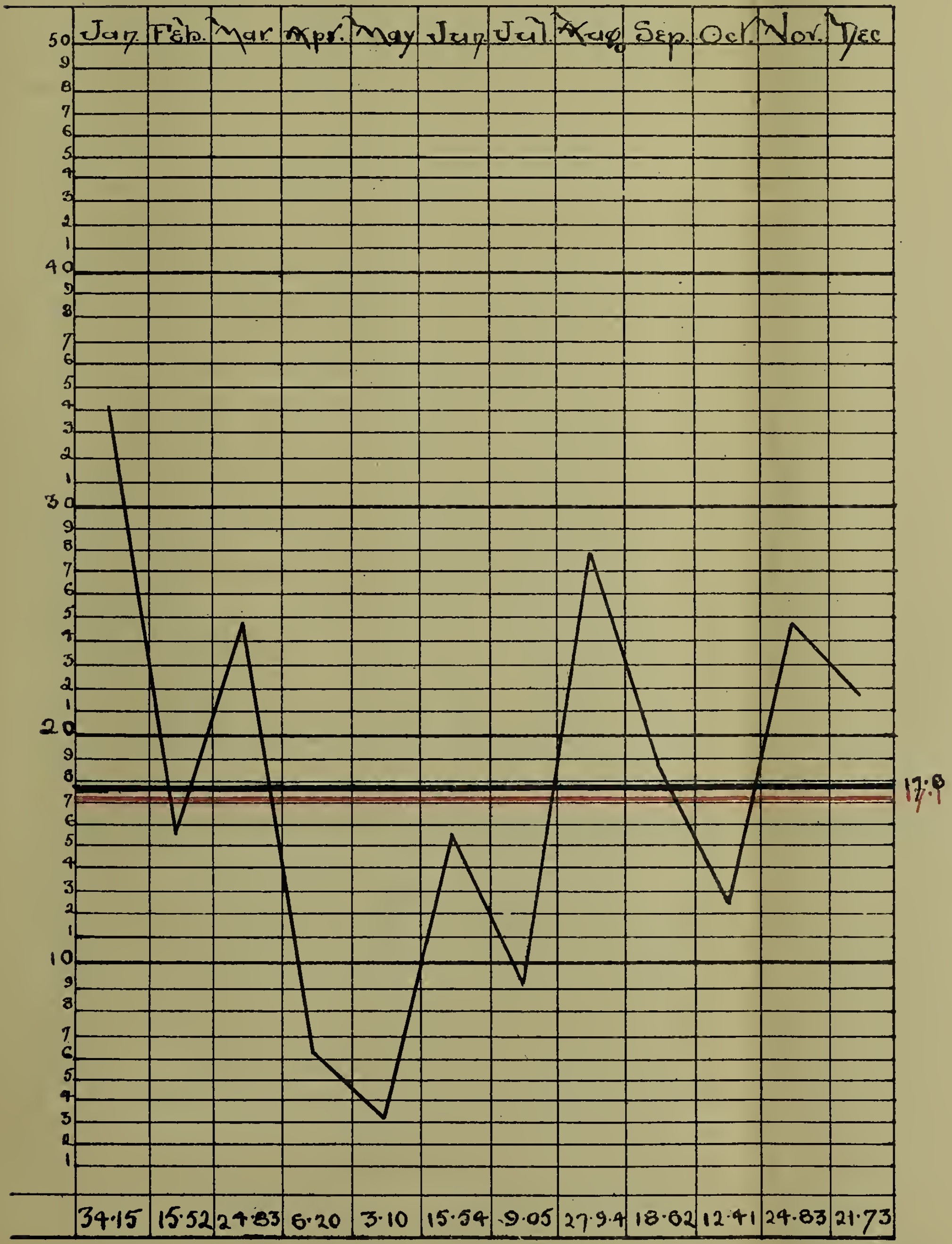
Straight line in "Black" shews Annual D.R. for the Ward.

" " " "Red" " " " " Borough.

Chart 15

WEST CENTRAL WARD.

Death Rate per 1000 per annum.

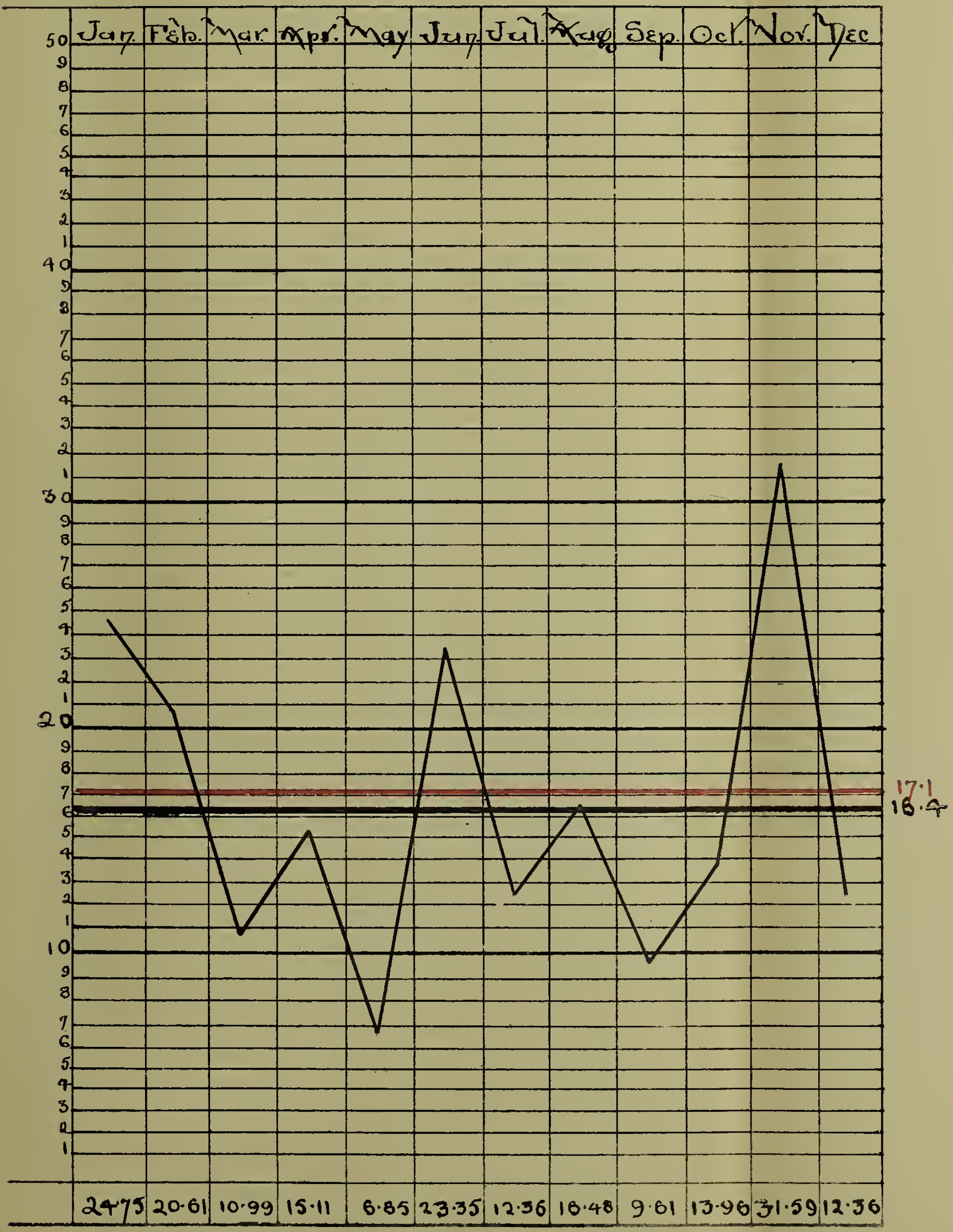


Straight line in "Black" shews Annual D.R. for the Ward
" " " "Red" " " " " Borough

Chart 16.

NORTH EAST WARD.

Death Rate per 1000 per annum.



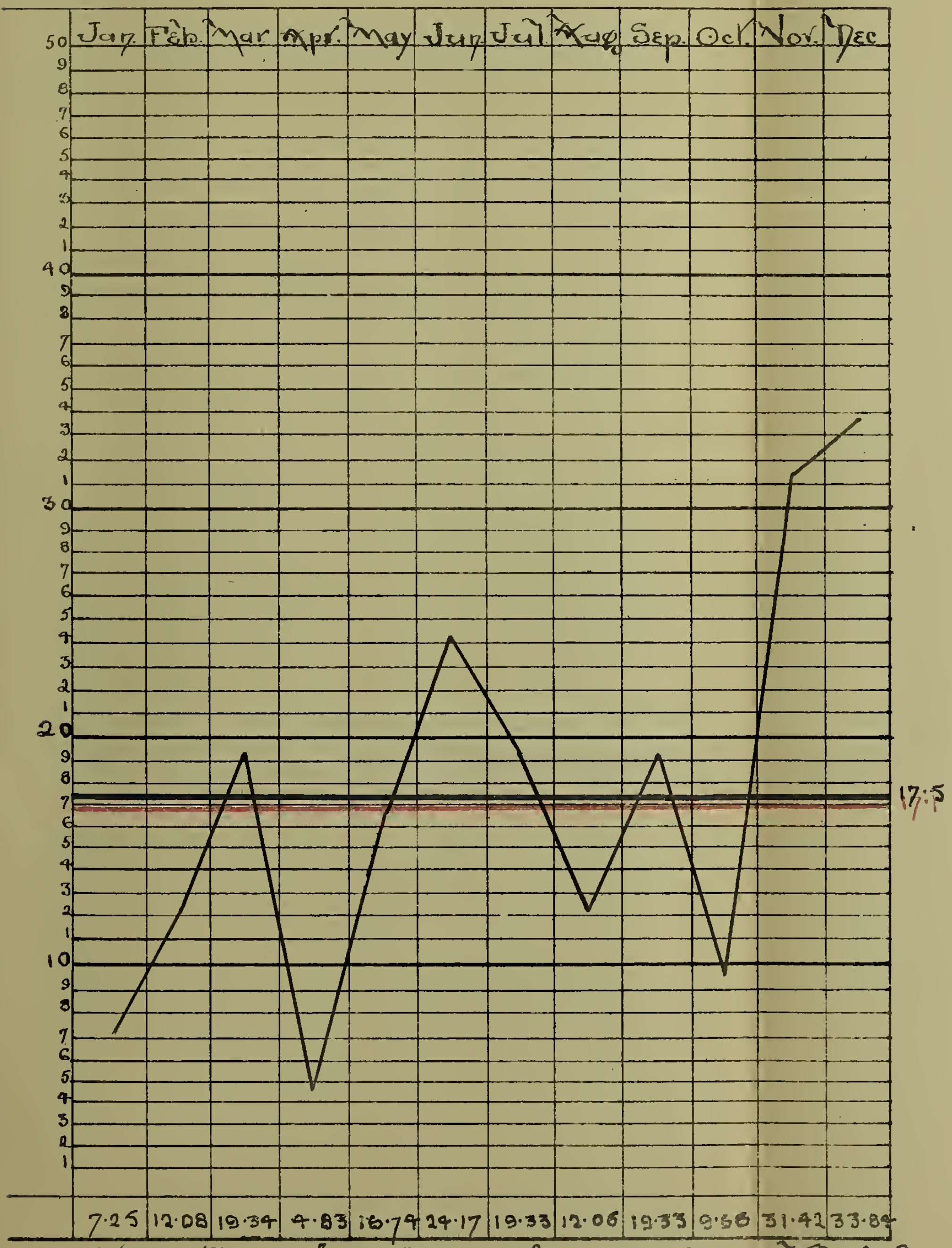
Straight line in "Black" shews Annual D.R. for the Ward.

" " "Red" " " " " Borough.

[illegible] 17

NORTH WEST WARD.

Death Rate per 1000 per annum.



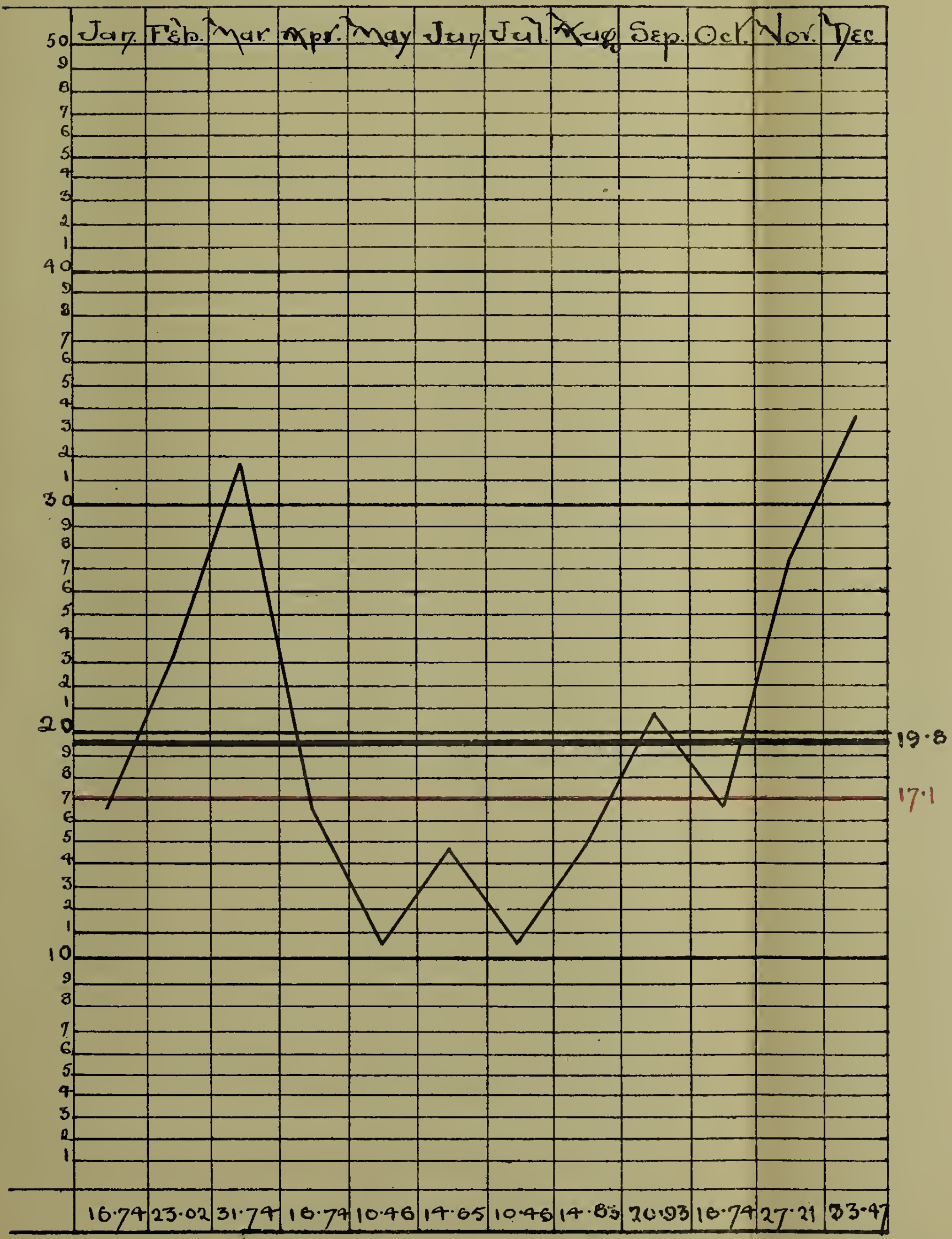
Straight line in "Black" shews Annual D.R. for the Ward.

" " " "Red" " " " " Borough.

Chart 18

SOUTH EAST WARD.

Death Rate per 1000 per annum.



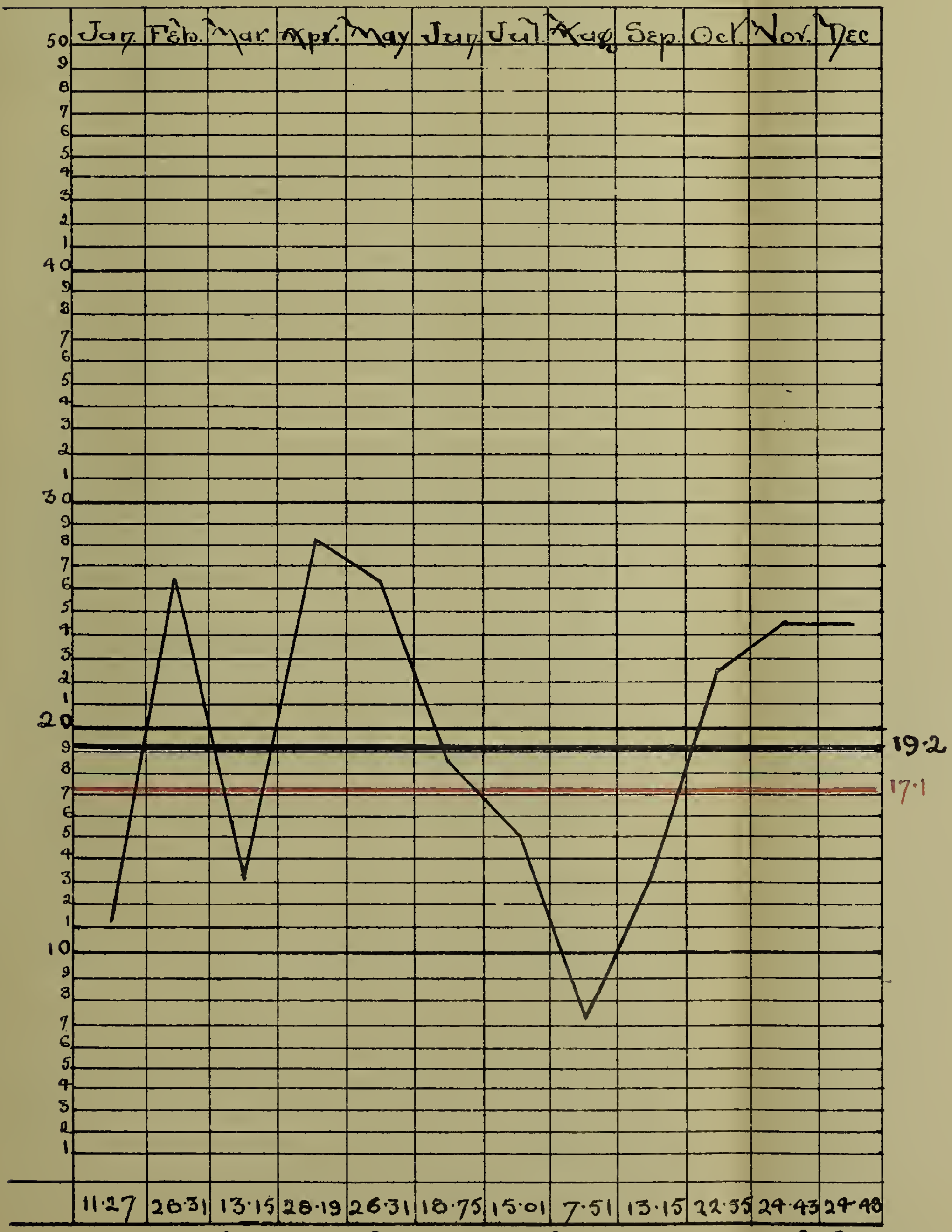
Straight line in "Black" shews Annual D.R. for the Ward.

" " "Red" " " " " Borough.

Chart 19

SOUTH WEST WARD.

Death Rate per 1000 per annum.



Straight line in Black shews Annual D.R. for the Ward.

" " " Red " " " " Borough.

THE FIRST CHART

Is given as last year, showing the total number of deaths in each month, the Rainfall in inches and tenths, and the deaths from respiratory diseases (Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy), Consumption and Zymotic Diseases.

The comparatively close relationship between the total number of deaths each month and the rainfall is again seen by the frequency with which the one follows the other until September is reached, when we have the highest rainfall for the whole year, viz., 9.32 inches, and at the same time the total death curve maintains its low position. A probable explanation of this is the influence the heavy rains had in cleansing the sewers, and keeping up the level of the ground water, thus preventing the rapid decomposition of vegetable matter, which at that time of the year takes place, giving rise to diarrhœral diseases.

The heavy mortality in November is accounted for by the large number of deaths from Bronchitis and Pneumonia during that month. The rainfall was very low, but what the other climatic conditions were which would influence the respiratory organs I cannot say. This could only be put on record by having a set of instruments placed in one of the parks.

The next Chart shows the number of deaths of children under five years of age, and persons of 60 years and upwards.

The children suffered most in November, when there were 14 deaths from Bronchitis, and two from Pneumonia; the others were five deaths from Premature Birth, two from Whooping Cough, three from Gastro-enteritis, etc.

CENTRAL WARD.

The annual death rate for the Ward was 12.8 per 1,000, being 4.3 per 1,000 below that for the borough. The highest point was reached in March, with 22.38 per 1,000. Bronchitis and Pneumonia contributed four deaths, and Consumption one. There was also one death from whooping cough. The next highest was in June, when the rate was 20.64 per 1,000, when there were three deaths from Heart Disease, one from Pneumonia, one from Consumption, three from Whooping Cough, and one from Typhoid Fever.

WEST-CENTRAL WARD.

The annual death rate was 17.8 per 1,000, being 0.7 per 1,000 above the borough. The year started badly with a death rate for January of 34.15 per 1,000. Bronchitis caused two deaths, Apoplexy, Convulsions, Senile Decay, Typhoid Fever, and Erysipelas one each, and two from Gastro-enteritis.

The next highest point was reached in August, with a rate of 27.94 per 1,000, when there were three deaths from Premature Birth, one from Senile Decay, one from Convulsions, two from Diarrhœa, and one from Influenza.

NORTH-EAST WARD.

The annual death rate was 16.4 per 1,000, or 0.7 per 1,000 below that for the Borough. In January the rate was 24.75 per 1,000. This was made up of two deaths from Heart Disease, three from Bronchitis, two from Pneumonia, one Senile Decay, two Premature Birth, one each from Measles, Gastro-enteritis, and Croup, and three from Tubercular Meningitis. June was also a fatal month, the rate being 23.35 per 1,000. There were two deaths from Heart Disease, three from Bronchitis, two from Pneumonia, one each from Consumption, Premature Birth, Convulsions, Cancer, and Whooping Cough, and two from diseases of the Liver.

The highest rate, viz., 31.59 per 1,000, was reached in November, when there were seven deaths from Bronchitis, three from Apoplexy, two from Gastro-enteritis, and one each from Consumption, Injuries, Cancer, Cystitis, Inflammation of the Liver, Dentition, Debility, and disease of the Brain.

NORTH-WEST WARD.

The annual death rate was 17.5 per 1,000, being 0.4 per 1,000 above that for the Borough. In June the rate was 24.17 per 1,000, the deaths being as follows—two from Bronchitis, three from Premature Birth, two from Convulsions, and one each from Consumption, Inanition, and Meningitis.

The rate then was low until November and December, when 31.42 and 33.84 per 1,000 respectively were chronicled. And to these November contributed two deaths from Pneumonia, one from Bronchitis, two from Premature Birth, and one each from the following—Consumption, Apoplexy, Senile Decay, Rheumatism, Whooping Cough, etc. In December there were three from Bronchitis, two from Pneumonia, four from Inanition, and one each from Heart Disease, Influenza, and Whooping Cough, and two from Tumours, etc.

SOUTH-EAST WARD.

The annual death rate was 19.8 per 1,000, or 2.7 per 1,000 above the Borough. The first rise was in March, with a rate of 31.74 per 1,000, when the following diseases were responsible—two from Premature Birth, and one each from Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Senile Decay, Measles, etc.

Then December was fatal with a rate of 33.47 per 1,000, to which the following cases, proving fatal, contributed, Bronchitis four, Pneumonia two, Consumption two, and one each from Apoplexy, Injuries, Senile Decay, Diabetes, Congestion of the Brain.

SOUTH-WEST WARD.

The annual death rate was 19.2 per 1,000, being 2.1 per 1,000 above the Borough. The first rise was in February, with a rate of 26.31 per 1,000, when the following diseases proved fatal—one from Bronchitis, two from Pneumonia, one from Consumption, one from Premature Birth, two from Convulsions, and one each from Rheumatism, Typhoid Fever, Parturition, Puerperal Fever, Tuberculosis, etc. Then a lull until April, when the highest point for the year was reached, with a rate of 28.19 per 1,000, the deaths being as follows—two from Bronchitis, two from Measles, two from Whooping Cough, and one each from Heart Disease, Apoplexy, Bright's Disease, Cancer, etc.

After this the rate was low until October, which rate was 22.55, November 24.43, and December 24.48 per 1,000.

In the first month the deaths were—Bronchitis four, Apoplexy two, Diarrhœa two, and one each Consumption, Injuries, Scarlet Fever, etc. In the second month there were three Heart Disease, two Bronchitis, two Pneumonia, and one each from Convulsions, Inanition, Puerperal Fever, Scarlet Fever, and two from diseases of the Stomach and Bowels, etc. In December the deaths were—five from Bronchitis, and one each from Heart disease, Pneumonia, Inanition, Premature Birth, Typhoid Fever, Croup, etc.

The Sanitary Condition of Property inspected during the Year.

The following report was presented to the Health Committee during the year. Such a systematic inspection of districts which are supposed to be unhealthy is a most valuable one, and likely to be productive of much good in bringing to light places which would otherwise escape observation, except in the case of an epidemic, when such information would be too late.

Most of the recommendations have since been attended to, with very satisfactory results.

Address.	Inmates.		LIVING ROOMS.					SLEEPING ROOMS.					Drains.	Yard.	Closet.	Ashes.	Cub.ft. per head in Sleepg Rooms
	Adults.	Children	No.	Area in Cub. feet	Window Space sq. ft.	Fire-place. sq. ft.	Condi-tion.	No.	Area in Cub. feet	Window Space sq. ft.	Fire-place. sq. ft.	Condi-tion.					
2, Astley Street.........	4		2	1344	13	1½	Fair	2	1344	13	1	Fair	Bad	None	Pail	Tub	672
do				576	None	None	"		1344	13	1	"					672
3, do	2	6	2	1344	13	1½	"	2	1344	13	1	Good	"	"	"	"	672
do				576	None	None	"		1344	13	1	"					444
4, do	1		2	1344	13	1½	Locked up	2	1344	13	1	Locked up	"	"	"	"	1344
do				576	None	None			1344	13	1						None
5, do			2	1344	13	1½	Good	2	1344	13	1	Good	"	"	"	"	
do				576	None	None	"		1344	13	1	"					
6, do	2	1	2	1344	13	1½	Fair	2	1344	13	1	Clean	"	"	"	"	672
do				576	None	None	"		1344	13	1	"					1344
7, do	3	3	2	1344	13	1½	"	2	1344	13	1	Good	"	"	"	"	444
do				576	None	None	"		1344	13	1	"					896
8, do	3	2	2	1344	13	1½	"	2	1344	13	1	Fair	"	"	"	"	538
do				576	None	None	"		1344	13	1	"					896
9, do	2	5	2	1344	13	1½	"	2	1344	13	1	Clean	"	"	"	"	672
do				576	None	None	"		1344	13	1						537
10, do	2	3	2	1344	13	1½	"	2	1344	13	1	Good	"	"	"	"	672
do				576	None	None	"		1344	13	1	"					896
36, do	2	2	2	1344	13	1		2	768	13	1¼		"	"	"	"	384
do				768		1			768	13	1¼						768
11, do	2	3	2	1152	13		Good	2	1296	13		"	"	"	"	"	648
do				392	13		"		1080	13		"					720
12, do	2	2	2	1152	13		Locked up	2	1296	13		Locked up	"	"	"	"	648
do				392	13				1080	13							1080
13, do	2	2	2	1152	13	1¼	Good	2	1296	13	1	Good	"	"	"	"	648
do				392	13		"		1080	13		"					1080
14, do	2	4	2	1152	13	1¼	"	2	1296	13	1	"	"	"	"	"	648
do				392	13		"		1080	13		"					540
15, do	2	2	2	1152	13	1¼	"	2	1296	13	1	"	"	"	"	"	648
do				392	13		"		1080	13		"					1080
1, Back Astley Street	2	2	1	1008	13	1¼	"	1	1092	13	1	"	Fair	"	"	"	364
2, do	1		1	1008	13	1¼	"	1	1092	13	1	"	"	"	"	"	1092
3, do	3	1	1	1008	13	1¼	Dirty	1	1092	13	1	Dirty	"	"	"	"	312
4, do	2	4	1	1008	13	1¼	"	1	1092	13	1	"	"	"	"	"	364
5, do	2		1	1008	13	1¼	"	1	1092	13	1	"	"	"	"	"	546
6, do	1		1	1008	13	1¼	"	1	1092	13	1	"	"	"	"	"	1092
7, do	2	1	1	1008	13	1¼	"	1	1092	13	1	"	"	"	"	"	436
8, do	1	4	1	1008	13	1¼	"	1	1092	13	1	"	"	"	"	"	364

9, Back Astley Street	2		1	1008	13	1¼	Dirty	1	1092	13	1	Dirty	Fair	None	Pail	Tub	546
10, do	2	1	1	1008	13	1¼	"	1	1092	13	1	"	"	"	"	"	436
11, do	2		2	1176	13	1¼	"	2	1176	13	1	"	"	"	"	"	588
do				420	13				420	13							
12, do	2	5	2	1176	13	1¼	"	2	1176	13	1	"	"	"	"	"	392
do				420	13				420	13							250
13, do	2	2	2	1176	13	1¼	"	2	1176	13	1	"	"	"	"	"	588
do				420	13				420	13							420
14, do	2	5	2	1176	13	1¼	"	2	1176	13	1	"	"	"	"	"	392
do				420	13				420	13							250
15, do	2	2	2	1176	13	1¼	"	2	1176	13	1	"	"	"	"	"	588
do				420	13				420	13							420
36, Stoney Flats.........	2	1	2	1373	14	2	Fair	2	1373	14	2	Fair	"	Flagged	"	"	686
				982	14				982	14							982
37, do	2	3	2	1431	14	2	"	2	1431	14	2	"	"	"		,	715
				982	14				982	14							654
38, do	3	1	2	1431	14	2	"	2	1431	14	2	"	"		"	"	477
				982	14				982	14							982
39, do	5	3	2	1431	14	2	"	2	1431	14	2	"	"	"	"	"	357
				982	14				982	14							392
40, do	2	2	2	1404	14	2	"	2	1404	14	2	"	"	"	"	"	702
				780	14				780	14							780
41, do	2	3	2	1404	14	2	"	2	1404	14	2	"	"	"	"	"	702
				780	14				780	14							520
42, do	8		2	2106	14	2	"	2	2106	14	2	"	"	"	"	"	351
				876	14				876	14							438
43, do	4	4	2	1490	14	2	"	2	1490	14	2	"	"	"	"	"	375
				864	14				864	14							432
44, do	6	4	2	1490	14	2	"	2	1490	14	2	"	"	"	"	"	248
				864	14				864	14							432
45, do	3	5	2	1508	14	2	"	2	1508	14	2	"	"	"	"	"	377
				884	14				884	14							589
46, do	4	5	2	1490	14	2	"	2	1490	14	2	"	"	"	"	"	372
				864	14				864	14							376
47, do	2	4	2	1490	14	2	"	2	1490	14	2	"	"	"	"	"	745
				864	14				864	14							432
48, do	4	3	2	1490	14	2	"	2	1490	14	2	"	"	"	"	"	375
				864	14				864	14							576
49, do	3	3	2	1490	14	2	"	2	1490	14	2	"	"	"	"	"	497
				864	14				864	14							576
50, do	4	2	2	1490	14	2	"	2	1490	14	2	"	"	"	"	"	497
				864	14				864	14							432
51, do	5	4	2	1976	14	2	"	2	1976	14	2	"	"	"	"	"	395
				1170	14				1170	14							585

Address.	Inmates.		LIVING ROOMS.					SLEEPING ROOMS.					Drains.	Yard.	Closet.	Ashes.	Cub.ft. per head in Sleepg Rooms
	Adults.	Children.	No.	Area in Cub. feet	Window Space sq. ft.	Fire-place sq. ft.	Condi-tion	No.	Area in Cub. feet	Window Space sq. ft.	Fire-place sq. ft.	Condi-tion					
1, Grime's Place	2		2	880	12	1	Dirty	1	576	8	None	Dirty	Bad	None	Pail	Tub	288
				540	8		*										
3, do	Em	pty	2	1680	12	1	Dirty	2	1015	12		"	"	"	"	"	
				1632	8		*		480	8							
2, do	2		1	540	8	1	*	1	576	12	"	"	"	"	"	"	288
3, Grime's Court	3	4	2	1470	12	1	Roof	2	1755	16	"	"	"	"	"	"	585
				294	12		bad		756	4		not used					378
2, do	1		1	1462	27	1	"	1	1560	18	"	roof bad	"	"	"	"	1560
1, do	2		1	1462	24	1	"	1	1560	18	"	"	"	"	"	"	780
3, The Alley	3		2	640	6		Dirty	1	1056	4		Dirty	"	"	"	"	352
				792	9	1											
8, do	2	1	2	960	8		"	2	960	8			"	"	"	"	845
				1152	12	1			1152	12	1	"					
9, do	1	1	2	728	8		"	2	728	8							
				1456	12	1			1456	12	1	"	"	"	"	"	1456
2, Gregg's Gardens ...	6	1	2	1521	15	1	"	2	1521	15	1	"	"	"	"	Ashpit	492
				1691	15	1			1691	15	1						
3, do	1	2	2	1521	15	1	"	2	1521	15	1	"	"	"	"	"	1606
				1691	15	1			1691	15	1						
4, do	2		2	280	4		"	1	1372	12	1	"	Fair	C'mon yd	Privy	"	686
				1372	12	1									midd'n		
5, do	2		2	280	4		"	1	1372	12	1	"	"	"	"	"	686
				1372	12	1											
6, do	1	3	2	280	4		"	1	1372	12	1	"	"	"	"	"	548
				1372	12	1											
7, do	2	2	2	280	2		"	1	1372	12	1	"	"	"	"	"	454
				1372	16	1											
8, do	1	1	2	336	4		"	2	588	9		"	"	"	"	"	980
				1260	12	1			882	12	1						
9, do	2	5	2	336	8			2	588	9							326
				1260	12	1	"		882	12	1	"	"	"	"	"	
1a, do	3	5	1	960	12	1	"	1	1020	13½	None	"	"	None	Pail	"	185
1, do	2		2	168	2		"	1	1436	12	"	"	"	"	"	"	718
				1053	12	1					-						
14, do	2	2	2	504	9			2	504	4							
				1352	12	1	"		1092	12	1	"	"	"	"	Tub	532

* Cellar Dwelling.

15, Gregg's Gardens...	2	2	2	504	9		Dirty	2	504	4		Dirty	Fair	None	Pail	Tub	532
18, Holden Fold	2	5	3	1352 1456 560 490	12 12 7 6	1 1¼ 1 None	Fair	3	1092 1456 560 490	10 8 7 6	1 1 1 1	Roof bad	Bad	”	”	”	556
20, do	2	1	2	1176 567	12 7	1	Dirty	2	1344 648	8 4	1	”	”	”	”	”	796
22, do	2	2	2	1176 567	16 8	1	Fair	2	1344 648	8 6	1	”	”	”	”	”	664
24, do	3	6	2	1176 567	16 12	1	”	2	1344 648	8 6	None	”	”	”	”	”	332
13, do	2		2	672 560	12 8	1¼	Dirty	2	672 560	12 8	”	Dirty	”	”	One Pail	No accommodation	616
15, do	2	4	2	1372 672	12 4	1¼	”	2	1372 672	12 4	”	Roof bad Dirty	”	”			511
17, do	2	1	2	1372 672	12 4	1¼	”	2	1372 672	12 4	1	”	”	”			817
19, do	3	4	2	1372 672	12 4	1¼	Fair	2	1372 672	12 4	1	Fair	”	”			408
1, Melling's Court......	2		2	1008 728	16 8	1¼ 1¼	Dirty	2	1008 728	6 4	1¼	Roof bad Dirty	No proper drains	”	Pail	Tub	868
2, do	2		2	1008 728	9 10	1¼ 1¼	”	2	1008 728	6 4	1	”		”	”	”	868
3, do	2	2	2	780 504	12 6	1¼ 1¼	”	2	1568 448	6 6	1	”	,	”	”	”	672
4, do	2		2	1183 448	12 4	1	”	1	1183	8	1	,	”	,	”	”	591

ASTLEY STREET.—These houses are all in a fairly clean condition, and on the occasion of my visit there was every attention paid to cleanliness, as was evidenced by all the bedroom windows being open more or less; the floors and walls were clean, and many had recently been whitewashed, and the floors and stairs cleansed. The beds and bedding were all fairly clean; the lighting in the bedrooms is good; the cubic space, as shown in the tabulated form, is in every case very good. In ordinary dwelling-houses there is no special limit to the cubic area per head. According to the best authorities on Sanitary matters the least allowance should be 1,000 cubic feet per head, and to maintain the air in such room in a state of purity this should be changed at least three times an hour; this gives each person 3,000 cubic feet of air per hour. To establish this interchange of air the room would require to have an inlet 24 inches square, and an outlet the same size. I mention these particulars to help you in your estimate of the cubic space and ventilation of the several compartments. According to the Public Health Act, the allowance per head in the sleeping rooms of a "Common Lodging House" should not be less than 300 cubic feet, but allowance must be made for such a low standard as allowed by law, as compared with what it should be in the opinion of experts, in the fact that the regulations governing common lodging houses require the windows to be opened for so many hours in the day, the bedclothes to be turned back, and the bedrooms must not be occupied during the day time except under exceptional circumstances. The drains are bad, and would require a large expenditure to put them right, as the slop stones are placed in the sculleries at the back of the living rooms and consequently the drain pipes have to pass underneath the living rooms. These sculleries have no windows, what light they do get is borrowed from the kitchen or living room.

BACK ASTLEY STREET.—These houses are mostly in a dirty condition, due to the fact that the tenants are of an inferior class. The cubic area in the sleeping rooms is fair; the drains are also in fair condition, the slop stones being placed against the outside wall are more easily connected with the drains.

The elevation of the land opposite Back Astley street prevents the free circulation of air about the dwellings which is necessary for good ventilation.

I would recommend an inquiry into this matter with a view to converting the back to back houses which form Astley street and Back Astley street into single dwellings. This would do away with all sanitary defects, and make a street of good class cottages.

STONEY FLATS.—Quite recently a great improvement has taken place in this district, consequently I have no complaints to make. The whole of the property is in fair condition, and the indications are that it will be kept so. The danger lies in overcrowding, which at present does not seem to be the case, and the Sanitary Inspectors are keeping a careful watch to prevent a recurrence of this evil.

GRIME'S PLACE is a black spot. The houses are dirty, the drains bad, and there are no yards. In connection with each house is a cellar dwelling.

GRIME'S COURT.—These houses are in a dilapidated state, and on account of the roof being defective the bedrooms are not used.

I think a Sub-committee should be formed to visit these places with a view to closing them.

THE ALLEY.—Nos. 8 and 9 will shortly be closed, and their use as dwellings be discontinued.

GREGG'S GARDENS.—These houses are more or less dirty. The cubic area in the sleeping rooms is fairly adequate for such dwellings. Measures are being taken to convert as quickly as possible the ashpits into tubs, and the midden privies into pails. I am informed that the owner of the closets, about which complaints have been made, purposes doing away with the pail closets, and erecting fresh ones on the waste water system. I cannot recommend any large expenditure of money on the closet accommodation in this locality, as this would only touch the fringe of the difficulty. The only solution of this would be the entire re-modelling of the district.

HOLDEN FOLD.—Nos. 18, 20, 22 and 24 have defective roofs, bad drains, and no back yards. Notices will be served to put these into better repair. The same will also be done in the case of Nos. 13, 15, 17 and 19. The tenants of these four houses have to join at one closet, and the ashes are thrown on to the adjoining land. This results from the lack of accommodation. The landlord is quite willing to do all that is required, but is unable to secure land upon which to build the closets and receptacles for ashes.

Owing to the elevated nature of this district ventilation is more easy to obtain, and consequently they are more free from some of the dangers which surround the more closely packed houses in the centre of the town.

MELLIN'S COURT.—These houses have also roofs in bad repair, and defective drains. Notices will be served on the owners to remedy these, and also to put the houses in a clean condition.

FARMS AND DAIRIES.

The following are the Regulations made by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the Borough of Darwen, acting by the Council as the Local Authority for the said Borough, in pursuance of the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order of 1885, and adopted at a meeting of the Darwen Town Council acting as the Urban Sanitary Authority for the said Borough, held on the fifth day of December, 1892.

Commencement of the Regulations.

1. The following regulations shall come into force on the First day of February, 1893.

Interpretation.

2. In these Regulations the term "Corporation" means the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the Borough of Darwen, acting as the Urban Sanitary Authority.

For the Inspection of Cattle in Dairies.

3. Where any Officer of the Corporation specially authorised by them in that behalf has for the purpose of inspecting Cattle been admitted to any Dairy, the occupier of such Dairy and any person having charge of any Cattle therein shall not neglect or refuse when required by such Officer to render such reasonable assistance as may be necessary for the inspection of Cattle in the Dairy.

For prescribing and regulating the Lighting, Ventilation, Cleansing, Drainage, and Water Supply of Dairies and Cow-sheds in the occupation of persons following the trade of Cow-keepers or Dairymen.

4. A person following the trade of a Cowkeeper or Dairyman shall comply with the following Regulations, that is to say:—

LIGHTING.

He shall cause every Dairy and Cowshed in his occupation to be adequately lighted in such a manner as to secure the passage of light into every part of the interior of such Dairy and Cowshed.

VENTILATION.

He shall cause every Dairy and Cowshed in his occupation to be provided with adequate means of ventilation, and to be properly ventilated at all times when such Dairy or Cowshed is in use.

CLEANSING.

He shall cause the interior of every Dairy and Cowshed in his occupation to be thoroughly cleansed from time to time as often as occasion may require.

DRAINAGE.

He shall cause every Dairy and Cowshed in his occupation to be effectually drained in such a manner as not to allow of direct communication by means of any drain between the interior of such Dairy and Cowshed, and any sewer or cesspool into which such drain may empty.

WATER SUPPLY.

He shall cause every Dairy and Cowshed in his occupation to be furnished with a supply of pure water adequate for all purposes.

For securing the Cleanliness of Milk-stores, Milk-shops, and of Milk-vessels used for containing Milk for Sale by such persons.

5. A person following the trade of Cowkeeper, Dairyman, or Purveyor of Milk, shall cause every Milk-store or Milk-shop in his occupation to be kept at all times in a cleanly and proper state.

6. He shall cause the ceiling and the interior of the walls of every such Milk-store or Milk-shop to be thoroughly cleansed in the months of April and October in every year: and he shall cause the floor of every such Milk-store or Milk-shop to be thoroughly washed at the termination of every day during which it may have been in use.

7. Such person shall not cause or suffer any solid, animal, or vegetable matter, or thing, or any liquid other than milk, to be at any time deposited or kept in any milk-vessel used or intended to be used for containing milk for sale. He shall cause every such vessel to be from time to time thoroughly cleansed with hot water or steam, so that the same may be at all times clean and fit for use.

For prescribing Precautions to be taken by Purveyors of Milk and Persons selling Milk by Retail against Infection or Contamination.

8. A Purveyor of Milk or a person selling milk by retail shall not cause or suffer any milk intended for sale to be stored or kept in any room or place in which, or in any room or place that may directly communicate with a room or place in which any person may be suffering from any infectious disease.

9. He shall not knowingly cause or suffer any milk intended for sale to be in any other way exposed to any risk of infection or contamination.

Penalties.

10. Every person who shall offend against any of the foregoing Regulations shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty of Five Pounds, and in the case of a continuing offence to a further penalty of Forty Shillings for each day after written notice of the offence from the Sanitary Authority.

Provided nevertheless that the Justices or Court before whom any complaint may be made or any proceedings may be taken in respect of any such offence may if they think fit adjudge the payment as a penalty of any sum less than the full amount of the penalty imposed by this Regulation.

During the year Mr. W. H. Eccles, the Farm Inspector, and I, visited 114 Farms and Dairies. In each case we measured and took full particulars of cubic area, floor space, height, windows, and the number of Cattle for which there was accommodation. Subjoined is a complete list, giving full particulars.

No.	Name of Farm.	No. of Windows.	Total Window Space.					Proportion of Window to Floor Space.	Floor Space.	Height	Area in cubic ft.	Cattle Accom-modation	Cubic Ft. per head.
			ft.	in.		ft.	in.		sq. ft.	ft.			
1	Cadshaw Brow	3	5	6	by	7	0	1/15	578	8	4624	10	462
2	Cush House	2	3	6	by	3	0	1/25	266	8	2128	5	425
	Ditto	2	3	6	by	3	0	1/40	420	8	3360	8	420
3	Lower Cadshaw	2	6	0	by	7	0	1/14	608	8½	5168	12	430
	Ditto	2	6	0	by	7	0	1/14	608	8½	5168	12	430
4	Sugar Leach	3	6	0	by	7	6	1/9	434	11	4774	10	477
5	Green Lowe Clough	...			....			...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Top o'th' Barn	...			....			...	...	...	...	...	...
7	Dickenson Barn	...			....			...	336	7	2352	7	336
8	Higher Cadshaw	...			....			...	980	7½	7350	14	525
9	Rough Height, Bull Hill	2	5	0	by	5	0	1/15	285	7	1995	6	332
10	Whewell's ,,	2	4	0	by	3	6	1/38	540	7½	4050	10	405
11	Bull Hill	1	4	6	by	2	6	1[52	627	8	5016	10	501
	Ditto	3	6	0	by	6	0	1/7	252	9	2268	6	378
	Ditto	1	2	0	by	1	6	1/88	266	7	1862	4	465
12	Bent Hall	3	4	6	by	4	6	1/27	551	7½	4132	12	344
13	Prospect, Bull Hill	4	8	0	by	9	0	1/9	667	8½	5669	16	354
	Ditto	3	5	6	by	4	6	1/13	324	10	3240	6	540
14	Blanket Hall	...			....			...	...	...	...	...	...
15	Hall Moss	1	2	0	by	1	6	1/88	266	7	1862	6	310
16	Higher Barn	...			....			...	192	7	1344	...	...
17	Meadow Head	...			....			...	287	7	2009	8	251
18	Brookside	...			....			...	...	...	...	...	...
19	Bent Hall Moss	1	3	0	by	1	6	1/54	196	8	1568	4	392
20	Mount Pleasant	1	2	0	by	1	3	1/156	375	7	2625	8	328
21	Bog Barn	1	2	0	by	1	6	1/96	288	7	2016	6	336
	Ditto	1	1	0	by	1	3	1/137	182	9	1638	4	409
22	Jack's Key	4	10	0	by	7	0	1/10	750	7	5250	16	327
	Ditto	2	4	0	by	2	9	1/23	230	7	1610	6	268
	Ditto	...			....			...	168	6	1008	6 calves	168
	Ditto	1	1	0	by	1	0	1/420	420	7	2940	10	294

No.	Name of Farm.	No. of Windows.	Total Window Space.	Proportion of Window to Floor Space.	Floor Space.	Height	Area in Cubic ft.	Cattle Accommodation	Cubic ft. per head.
					sq. ft.	ft.			
23	Knowl	4	10 0 by 7 0	1/15	1596	...	11172	18	558
24	Old Schoolhouse	...	....	...	580	7	4060	10	406
25	Holden Fold	2	8 0 by 8 0	1/12	805	8	6440	10	644
26	Pot House	1	2 0 by 2 6	1/72	364	7½	2730	8	341
27	Earcroft—" Thwaites "	2	4 0 by 4 0	1/46	741	7	5187	16	324
	Ditto	4	10 0 by 10 0	1/8	875	11	9625	16	601
28	Earcroft—" Petre "	2	4 0 by 4 0	1/22	350	7	2450	8	306
	Ditto	3	7 0 by 6 0	1/16	592	7	4144	11	377
	Ditto	...	....	...	260	7½	1950	6	325
29	Moss	2	5 0 by 4 0	1/14	286	8	2288	8	286
	Ditto	...	....	...	300	7	2100	8	262
	Ditto	1	1 0 by 1 3	1/80	105	7½	735	2	367
	Ditto	...	....	...	96	7	720	2	360
	Ditto	1	2 0 by 3 0	1/6	350	8	2880	10	288
	Ditto	1	3 0 by 2 6	1/135	840	8	4320	8	540
30	Moss, James Worsley	3	9 0 by 7 6	1/33	2275	8	18200	18	1011
31	Bog Height	3	7 0 by 4 0	1/14	404	7½	3164	11	268
32	Bog Bank	...	....	...	128	8	1024	3	341
	Ditto	...	....	...	288	6½	1872	8	234
	Ditto	...	....	...	288	6	1728	8	216
33	Holden Fold	...	....	...	...	...	...	...	...
34	Meadow Head	3	4 0 by 5 6	1/28	616	6	3696	12	308
35	Higher Meadow Head	1	3 0 by 3 0	1/51	465	7	3255	10	325
	Ditto	1	1 0 by 1 6	1/168	252	7	1512	6 calves	252
36	Radfield Head	5	11 0 by 8 3	1/17	1550	7½	10850	14	775
37	Janet House	2	3 9 by 3 6	1/29	377	7	2827	8	353
38	Prospect, J. H. Shorrock	1	4 0 by 3 0	1/32	392	7	2744	8	343
	Ditto	1	2 6 by 2 6	1/30	180	7	1260	4	315
39	Lower Sunnyhurst, J. Livesey	3	5 0 by 5 6	1/15	416	7	2912	10	291
	Ditto Ditto	1	1 8 by 1 8	1/81	195	7	1365	4	341
40	Ditto Worsley	3	9 0 by 9 0	1/11	900	8	7200	14	514

41	Sunnyhurst	4	10 0 by 8 0	1/9	744	8	5952	16	372
	Ditto	4	11 0 by 9 6	1/9	936	8	7488	16	468
42	Greenlowe	2	3 3 by 3 0	1/27	264	7	1846	6	308
	Ditto	3	8 0 by 7 0	1/10	604	7	4228	13	325
43	Height Side	...	....	...	...	...	...	...	...
44	Fickle Hall	3	12 6 by 8 0	1/4	425	8	3400	8	435
45	Higher House	1	2 6 by 1 6	1/67	216	7	1512	6	252
	Ditto	2	3 0 by 3 0	1/15	135	7	945	4 calves	236
	Ditto	1	2 0 by 1 6	1/76	228	7	1596	6	266
46	Bury Fold Farm	2	5 0 by 5 0	1/21	534	9	4812	10	481
47	No. 5, Bury Fold	...	....	...	200	6	1200	3	400
48	Wet Head	3	6 0 by 5 0	1/14	425	7	2975	10	297
49	Higher Wet Head	4	16 6 by 10 0	1/5	774	9	6966	12	580
50	Pickup Fold	3	3 0 by 5 0	1/24	364	7	2548	8	318
	Ditto	5	7 0 by 6 3	1/10	459	7	3213	8	401
51	New Meadow Gap	...	....	...	318	8	2544	8	318
52	Hampson's	3	9 0 by 10 6	1/7	630	8	5040	10	504
	Ditto	3	9 0 by 10 6	1/7	630	8	5040	10	504
53	Cranberry Fold	1	2 6 by 2 6	1/52	338	7	2366	·8	296
54	Ditto No. 2	...	....	...	...	...	...	...	...
55	Day Eye	2	2 0 by 1 6	1/68	204	6½	1326	5	265
	Ditto	1	2 0 by 1 6	1/31	94	10	945	3 calves	315
56	Kirkman's	2	5 0 by 4 0	1/42	841	7	5887	20	294
57	Greenfield	2	4 0 by 3 0	1/35	427	8	3416	9	379
	Ditto	1	1 0 by 1 3	1/211	264	7	1848	7	264
58	Chapels Farm	3	5 0 by 4 6	1/13	282	8	2256	7	322
	Ditto	2	4 6 by 3 0	1/22	297	8	2376	4	594
	Ditto	2	2 6 by 2 6	1/38	236	8	1888	6	314
59	Ellison Fold	5	11 0 by 10 0	1/10	1145	8	9160	24	382
	Ditto	4	9 0 by 10 0	1/4	355	9	3195	10	319
	Ditto	2	7 0 by 6 6	1/7	341	11	3751	4	937
60	Prince's, Pickup's	4	9 0 by 8 0	1/16	1148	7	8036	7	1148
61	Ditto Rawlinson's	2	3 0 by 2 6	1/61	459	8	3672	10	367
62	Holker House	8	22 0 by 25 0	1/2	972	8	7767	22	352
63	Meadow Head	3	3 6 by 3 6	1/25	299	7	2093	7	299
64	Lark Hall	4	10 0 by 7 0	1/8	561	8	4488	10	448
65	Langshaw Head	2	4 0 by 4 0	1/19	311	7½	2333	7	333

No.	Name of Farm.	No. of Windows.	Total Window Space.	Proportion of Window to Floor Space.	Floor Space.	Height	Area in Cubic ft.	Cattle Accommodation	Cubic ft. per head.
			ft. in. ft. in.		sq. ft.	ft.			
66	Crown and Thistle	1	3 6 by 2 6	1/35	308	11	3388	6	564
	Ditto	1	2 0 by 1 6	1/88	266	7	1875	6	310
67	Grimehills	4	8 6 by 10 0	1/6	533	7	3731	12	310
	Ditto	3	5 6 by 5 0	1/35	980	7	6860	10	686
68	Hillock	5	15 0 by 12 6	1/12	2236	9	20122	20	1008
69	Far Hillock	3	6 0 by 4 6	1/20	544	7½	4083	10	408
70	Cuckoldman's	2	4 0 by 3 0	1/45	545	7	3820	12	318
71	Lower Trees	1	2 0 by 1 6	1/97	292	7½	2190	6	365
72	Punstock	...	....	...	...	...	...	...	...
73	Intack	1	2 6 by 2 0	1/49	247	7	1729	6	285
	Ditto	2	2 0 by 1 6	1/95	286	7	2002	6	334
74	Hollin Bank	3	6 0 by 6 0	1/8	312	7	2496	7	334
75	Sniddle Hill	4	9 6 by 10 0	1/15	1519	7	10633	20	531
76	Higher Coney	2	6 0 by 2 0	1/18	218	8	1744	8	218
77	Higher Trees................................	...	....	...	...	...	...	...	...
78	Lower Coney................................	...	....	...	324	7½	2430	7	347
79	Lord's Hall	1	3 0 by 2 0	1/116	697	8	5576	12	465
80	Harwood's..................................	2	7 0 by 5 0	1/22	777	7	5439	12	453
81	Hatton's......................................	1	3 0 by 2 0	1/69	416	7	2912	9	323
82	Garsden's	1	2 0 by 1 0	1/164	328	7	2301	8	288
83	Punch Bowl	2	5 6 by 5 0	1/39	391	9	3519	6	586
	Ditto	1	2 0 by 1 6	1/82	247	8	1976	6	329
	Ditto	1	2 0 by 2 0	1/86	343	7	2401	7	343
84	Catleach	1	3 0 by 3 6	1/146	487	8	3896	6	649
	Ditto	3	7 0 by 9 0	1/8	502	8	4016	7	595
	Ditto	2	6 0 by 4 6	1/33	903	8	7224	10	722
85	Earnsdale	1	2 0 by 2 0	1/36	143	8	1144	4	286
	Ditto	1	2 0 by 2 0	1/49	198	6½	1287	6	214
	Ditto	2	2 6 by 2 6	1/35	288	6	1728	8	216
86	Hawkshaw	5	17 6 by 15 0	1/2	893	9	8037	11	730

87	Height	2	5 0 by 4 0	1/18	364	7	2548	...	...
88	Birchalls	4	10 0 by 9 0	1/77	697	8	5576	10	557
89	Greenlands	2	2 0 by 2 6	1/72	360	7	2520	6	420
	Ditto	2	3 0 by 2 0	1/60	360	6	2160	6	360
90	Low Wenshead	4	14 0 by 10 0	1/5	800	8	6400	16	400
	Ditto	1	2 0 by 1 6	1/51	155	8	1242	4	310
91	Oakenhurst, Smith	1	2 0 by 2 0	1/51	204	8	1632	5	326
	Ditto	2	4 0 by 4 0	1/34	544	14	7616	10	761
	Ditto	4	8 0 by 8 0	1/47	301	14	4214	6	702
	Ditto	2	4 0 by 3 6	1/22	308	8	2464	6	410
	Ditto	2	4 0 by 3 6	1/25	352	8	2816	6	469
	Ditto	None	....	...	308	8	2464	6	410
92	Ditto Marsden	None	....	...	288	6	1728	8	216
	Ditto	1	3 0 by 2 6	1/25	192	7	1344	4	336
93	Anchor	1	2 0 by 2 0	1/80	322	12	3864	6	644
	Ditto	None	....	...	598	8	4784	12	398
	Ditto	1	4 0 by 2 0	1/28	228	11	2508	6	418
94	Sunnyfield	2	2 6 by 1 6	1/55	209	6	1255	5	251
95	Far Scotland	2	4 6 by 3 6	1/13	306	6½	1989	8	248
96	Middle Scotland	2	6 0 by 4 6	1/14	399	7	2793	9	310
97	Near Scotland	1	3 0 by 2 6	1/49	367	7	2569	6	428
	Ditto	1	2 0 by 1 6	1/76	230	6	1560	6	260
98	Higher Stand	...	....	...	...	...	...	...	...
99	Lower Stand	2	4 0 by 3 0	1/42	504	7½	3780	8	472
	Ditto	1	3 0 by 2 6	1/36	273	6	1638	6	273
100	View Farm	3	15 0 by 12 0	1/6	1020	12	12240	16	765
101	Far Wenshead	2	4 0 by 3 6	1/89	1247	8	9976	12	831
	Ditto	5	12 0 by 10 0	1/8	980	9	8820	16	551
102	Turncroft	5	12 6 by 12 6	1/12	1887	8½	16039	24	667
103	Higher Marsh House	2	4 6 by 4 0	1/24	435	8	3480	8	435
	Ditto	3	7 0 by 5 6	1/14	528	6½	3432	10	345
	Ditto	1	3 0 by 3 0	1/37	332	8½	2822	6	470
104	Haydock's	...	....	...	...	...	...	...	...
105	Moss Side	None	....	...	104	8	832	3	277
106	Halliwell's	3	3 0 by 1 6	1/44	198	6	1188	5	237
107	Top o'th' Height	2	3 0 by 2 6	1/41	308	7	2156	6	359

No.	Name of Farm.	No of Windows	Total Window Space.	Proportion of Window to Floor Space.	Floor Space.	Height	Area in cubic ft.	Cattle Accom-modation	Cubic Ft. per head.
			ft. in. ft. in.		sq. ft.	ft.			
108	Lower Barn	None	....	...	667	7	4669	12	389
	Ditto	4	14 0 by 10 0	1/8	1221	12	14652	18	801
109	Hatton's..................................	3	7 0 by 6 0	1/12	690	7	4830	12	402
	Ditto	1	2 0 by 1 6	1/50	150	7	1050	3	350
110	Taylor Green	1	3 0 by 2 6	1/63	478	7	3346	10	334
	Ditto	1	2 6 by 2 0	1/92	462	7	3634	10	364
111	Hey Fold, St. James's	3	4 6 by 4 6	1/20	408	7½	3060	10	306
	Ditto Greenway's	1	1 6 by 1 6	1/54	176	7	1232	4	308
	Ditto	2	2 6 by 2 6	1/51	324	6½	2106	8	263
	Ditto	2	3 0 by 2 6	1/20	154	7	1078	5 calves	215
112	Turn Lane..................................	2	1 6 by 1 9	1/142	375	6½	2437	10	243
113	Higher Woodhead	3	5 0 by 4 0	1/20	418	7	2926	8	366
114	Hill Houses	1	1 6 by 1 0	1/135	203	7	1421	4	355
	Ditto	1	2 0 by 1 0	1/112	224	8	1798	4	449

Since our visit the year before there has been much more attention paid to the general cleanliness of the Cowsheds. All of them were whitewashed, and kept in better condition than had been the case before. There is yet a great deal to be done to render these places fit for the housing of Cattle, and the preservation of pure milk. From the table I have given it will be seen that in the matter of lighting there is quite a wrong impression abroad, and, in fact, the idea seems to prevail among the farmers that light, instead of being beneficial, is derogatory to the health of the animals. This should be better understood by all, that sunlight is absolutely necessary for the growth of animals, and helps to keep the air of the sheds in a purer condition. Apart from this it facilitates all operations inside and thus conduces to an economical management. The floors of the Shippons are often in a dirty condition, due to the rough material used in the paving. The cobble stones most frequently used allow of much liquid matter to lie and accumulate in the interspaces; this is removed with so much difficulty that it is more often allowed to lie there than not, and so emanations of fetid gases rise up to poison the atmosphere. This should be made with cement, properly laid with a gentle incline towards a channel ending in a trapped gully outside the building. The walls, at least the lower portion of them, should also be cemented, thus providing a smooth and impervious face, which can easily be washed down. The window space should be sufficient to allow of the whole place being well lighted up in every part, and now in making any requisition to owners for improved lighting this amount is distinctly stated, viz., one-sixteenth of the floor space.

The practice of storing hay in the buildings, without any partition between the animals and the hayloft, is a bad one, and should be discouraged. During the summer or at the time when the animals are first kept up, the whole of the front of the stalls is usually blocked up by hay. This is exposed to the air expired by the animals, and may thus become a source of infection. It should be strictly understood that this is bad, and cannot be allowed. The space at the head of the stall should be used where practicable for purposes of ventilation. The animals need separate compartments for the same purpose, that they may not be placed in danger of infection from the expired air of the neighbouring animals.

Where liquid manure tanks have been placed under the shippon floor, an order has been made for their removal, so that now this danger does not exist except in very rare cases, whereas previous to our visits this was the rule. Ventilation is not supposed to be needed where only animals are kept. How fallacious this is has been proved over and over again. Where possible this should be done by cross ventilation, that is, from one wall to another, but where the opposite walls are not outside ones, then the inlets should be placed in the outside wall, and ventilators put up as near the inside wall as possible. These ventilators, I need hardly say, should not be blocked up in any condition of weather. Where this is needed there is something wrong with their construction.

In very few places is the water supply what it should be. It has to be drawn from shallow wells, which are sometimes at too great a distance from the farmstead to be of use, and the quality of it is not always above suspicion. There should be a supply inside the cowshed, preferably from a public water company, but where not available, then stored inside the shed in closed tanks, which should be at least six feet from the floor, and of the capacity of 12 gallons for each beast. By having these tanks inside the building, water is kept at a suitable temperature in the winter time. Each animal should have a separate feeding trough, to which the water is laid on.

The manure is often stored on unprepared ground against the wall of the cowshed. The midden stead should be properly paved, and drained into a tank, and should also be covered in to protect the manure from the effects of the weather. Much of the valuable ammonia products of chemical changes in the material is now lost, when it might be retained by having suitable storing places.

The dairies are much improved since our inspection began, especially in the matter of general cleanliness. Still there is yet too great a tendency to look upon these places as being for purely domestic purposes, and all kind of provisions kept therein. It must be distinctly understood that a dairy can only be used for the storage of milk.

I recommend for your consideration the advisability of framing fresh and more stringent Regulations, in accordance with Section XIII. of the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Act.

This is a matter which it is pleasing to find is being taken up all over the country, especially since some parts of the Continent have proved all the old notions of the farming industry to be wrong.

One other matter I ought to mention, viz., the want of attention to even general cleanliness which is observed at these places. The hands of the operators before milking begins should always be washed, as well as the udders of the animals. This is not attended to, partly from ignorance, and partly because provision is not made in the shape of wash basins and towels in some convenient place inside the building. In some of the continental districts the cows are as carefully groomed as the horses, and when we consider that they provide us with such a valuable food, and one used almost exclusively by the infant population, can we wonder at the care which other people exercise in the matter?

As the result of our visits, the following Table shows the defects for which notices have been served.

	No. Served.	No. Abated.
Cowsheds Short of Light and Ventilation	14	5
Dairies " " "	5	3
Tanks under Shed Floor	3	1
Uneven Floors in Cowsheds	5	1
Defective Drainage	3	2
" Midden Steads	2	1
" Water Supply	1	0
Cesspool Closets	3	0
	36	13

Besides the above, many alterations have been made without having to go through the process of serving notices.

The Inspector's report will contain an account of re-inspections, etc.

CENTRAL WARD.

These figures do not apply specially to the year of this report, but were made out for the end of the year, and consequently will be those used for statistical purposes in 1897.

There are 1,546 houses, with an estimated population of 6,957, with the following sanitary arrangements—

Washstands, 209; water closets, 232; baths, 144; ashpits, 89; excreta pails, 1,289; cesspools, 10; waste water closets, 136; latrines, 8; ashtubs, 1,286; dustbins, 14; urinals, 45.

WEST-CENTRAL WARD

Has 861 houses, with an estimated population of 3,875.

Sanitary arrangements—Washstands, 121; water closet, 156; baths, 69; ashpits, 133; excreta pails, 668; cesspools, 14; waste water closets, 36; ashtubs, 436; dustbins, 8; back-to-back houses, 3; urinals, 12; cellar dwelling, 1.

NORTH-EAST WARD

Has 1,945 houses, with an estimated population of 8,753.

Sanitary arrangements—Washstands, 101; water closts, 59; baths, 78; ashpits, 65; excreta pails, 1,729; cesspools, 13; waste water closets, 192; latrines, 8; ashtubs, 1,640; dustbins, 9; back-to-back houses, 14.

NORTH-WEST WARD

Has 1,156 houses, with an estimated population of 5,202.

Sanitary arrangements—Washstands, 129; water closets, 125; baths, 84; ashpits, 118; excreta pails, 981; cesspools, 19; waste water closets, 62; latrines, 15; ashtubs, 755; dustbins, 6; urinals, 3.

SOUTH-EAST WARD

Has 1,346 houses, with an estimated population of 6,057.

Sanitary arrangements—Washstands, 52; water closets, 50; baths, 38; ashtubs, 65; excreta pails, 1,123; cesspools, 31; waste water closets, 86; ashtubs, 1,014; dustbins, 3; urinals, 7; cellar dwellings, 3.

SOUTH-WEST WARD

Has 1,479 houses, with an estimated population of 6,656.

Sanitary arrangements—Washstands, 107; water closets, 114; baths, 95; ashpits, 116; excreta pails, 1195; cesspools, 17; waste water closets, 73; ashtubs, 995; dustbins, 1; back-to-back houses, 28; urinals, 2; cellar dwellings, 10.

The total number of sanitary conveniences in the town are as follows—

Wash Stands	719	Waste Water Closets	585
Water Closets	734	Latrines	31
Baths	508	Ashtubs	6,126
Ashpits	586	Dustbins	41
Excreta Pails	6,985	Urinals	69
Cesspools	104		

and

Back-to-Back Houses	45	Cellar Dwellings	14

As far as practicable the size of the ashtubs is being reduced to facilitate the emptying of these articles. In most instances these tubs have been too unwieldy, and the contents have been poured on the back street, to be afterwards cleared away in carts. By having the tubs smaller they can be lifted up by two men, and the contents poured at once into the cart. This necessitates the more frequent removal of the ashes, which, from a sanitary point of view, is an advantage.

170 waste water closets have been added during the year. These are found to work so satisfactorily, that in many cases owners of property are making the desired change without the usual notice.

Many urinals have been added during the year, and have been placed in the most suitable and accessible places which could be secured, thus placing conveniences before the public which must be greatly appreciated.

Messrs. Lightbown, who put in latrines at their Dove Mill, were so pleased with the results that they have applied the same principle to Brookside Mill.

The excreta is collected weekly in the day time, but the Superintendent exercises the greatest care in its collection, so as not to offend the olfactory senses of the inhabitants.

The following handbill was distributed to all the shops in the borough, and has been followed by a marked improvement in the method of wrapping up meat, &c.

To Butchers, Grocers, Tripe and Fish Sellers, and others.

The Health Committee of the Corporation of Darwen beg to call your attention to the practice of some of the Shopkeepers in Darwen of using old Newspapers for wrapping up Butcher's Meat, Tripe, Ham, Potted Meat, Fish, Sausages, &c., where plain new paper should be used.

As this custom, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, is likely to spread disease, the Committee will be glad if Shopkeepers will discontinue the practice.

Any person not doing so after the receipt of this notice will be prosecuted.

By Order,

CHAS. COSTEKER,

Town Clerk.

29th October, 1896.

In my report for July, I advised as a recommendation from the Health to the Building Committee, that "in all cases of new houses the slop pipe should be trapped, and then discharge over a gully outside the building."

This was confirmed by the Building Committee, and instructions issued to that effect.

SCAVENGING.

The main streets are swept four times a week, and the bye-streets, which are much less frequented, are swept at least once a fortnight, but in most cases the men get through them once a week. This includes the cul de sacs.

The pails in private houses are emptied once a week, and those in the mills twice a week. There has been great difficulty in the past in doing this as economically as possible, and yet to avoid leaving the pails exposed in the back streets for the arrival of the drags. By a fresh arrangement this is now done away with, and the pails are taken from the closets and emptied straight into the drags, so that now the excreta when once disturbed is removed from the district as speedily as possible.

Numerous complaints have been received during the past years of the nuisance caused by this collection during the meal hours of the working people. The Superintendent has now arranged that this shall not take place except under exceptional and unforeseen circumstances.

During the last quarter of the year there was great difficulty in getting rid of the excrement. This was owing to the soft condition of the land, caused by the heavy rains. I think the contents of the pails should be treated at the new sewage works, the cost of transportation being no more than is at present the case in carting it to the farmers.

ASHES.—These are now collected from one or two districts more frequently than formerly. The ashtubs have been reduced in size to facilitate removal, and to obviate the necessity of emptying the ashes in the back streets. This new arrangement is both more economical and more sanitary.

STREET GULLIES.—When these are emptied and cleaned out they very often become untrapped, especially in new streets, where the debris is in considerable quantity. This suggests the advisability of following on with a hose pipe to flush out the gullies, and leave them trapped. Unless this is done they are, in hot, dry weather, likely to remain untrapped for a considerable time, and thus give rise to obnoxious smells in the streets.

Lodging Houses.

The lodging house provided at the old Workhouse in 1895 has been in constant use, and very well patronised by the class of people usually found in such places.

I have paid many visits to it, and on the occasion of every one of them I have found the place very clean.

During the past year the new Model Lodging House, situate near the above place, has been commenced.

The designs were prepared by the late Borough Engineer, Mr. William Stubbs, the style adopted being that of the general domestic structures of the neighbourhood, and the building will be faced with local parpoints and dressed stonework.

On the ground floor are two lodgers' entrances on the front, male and female respectively. Here also is the entrance for the manager, or caretaker, who will occupy on the right of the building a complete suite of apartments, which include hall, living room, two bedrooms, scullery, pantry, water closet, etc., and which are completely separated from the remainder of the house.

The two lodgers' entrances lead past an office which is common to both, into their respective halls. Here also are provision and crockery stores, which serve both sexes with equal efficiency, and at the same time maintain their separation. Behind the above mentioned, and in immediate connection therewith, are the other departments relative to the governing of the establishment. These consist of a scullery, where all the crockery will be washed, it being conveyed thither from the store on a wagon. In this apartment is also a lift connecting the whole of the upper storeys. Adjoining is the linen store and laundry, containing washer, wringer, mangle, disinfector, and drying frames, all the machinery being propelled by steam power.

Under this part of the building, and approached by a flight of steps from the passage, are the cellars, which will contain a steam boiler for motive power and hot water supply throughout the house.

Coming to the lodgers' portion we have on the male side a large day room, and adjoining it a dining room, with cooking kitchen containing hot plates, &c. This arrangement is repeated on the female side, with the difference that the day room and dining room are combined on account of the smaller number to be provided for. A passage (also in each case) leads from the hall to an open yard, where are situate an ample number of conveniences, lodgers' laundry, bath rooms, foot baths, lavatories, &c. This completes the ground floor.

Approach to the bedrooms is from the passage on the male side, and from the hall on the female side. Those on the first floor are arranged to meet varied circumstances.

The female side can by this arrangement be made to accommodate either sixteen, or in case of a larger number, twenty-nine. This would be accomplished by devoting the half or whole of the right wing to that sex by closing one of the iron doors (which would then be secured and locked). In case the smaller number of women were only to be accommodated, the remainder of the wing would be occupied by men, who would have their separate approach from the landing on their staircase.

In the left wing a very good plan of both lighting and ventilation is shown by having a large "well-hole" in the floor of the room above, which in its turn is open to the roof, where a continuous skylight, with sides to open, runs the full length of the same. These two rooms accomodate thirty-six males each, the top floor of the right wing twenty-nine males, and the first floor of the same wing thirteen males and sixteen females (or twenty-nine females), thus giving a total accommodation for 130 persons.

Each bed is enclosed in a cubicle 6ft. 6in. by 4ft. 6in., of sheet steel, with door made to secure on the inside. Complete arrangements are made for spring mattresses, bedding, clothing, &c., and each cubicle has a separate window to open for complete aeration. On both floors are lavatories and water closet arrangements, with thorough ventilation, and in case of fire means of exit have been provided in the shape of iron fire escapes on the outside of the building from each room.

On the completion of this building, I do not think there will be any excuse for the overcrowding in other parts of the town which has been a matter of so much difficulty in its treatment in the past.

Workshops.

The Factory and Workshops' Act, 1895, which came into operation on January 1st, 1896, provides against overcrowding by specifying that the space for each person shall be not less than 250 cubic feet, and during overtime 400 cubic feet, except that this may be modified by the Secretary of State during a period in which artificial light, other than the electric light, is used for illuminating purposes.

When an Inspector of Factories finds that any act, neglect, or fault, in relation to any drain, water closet, earth closet, privy, ashpit, water supply nuisance, or other matter, is punishable or remediable under the Health Act, but not under the Factory and Workshops' Act, 1878, he is required to notify the Urban Authority, who must within a reasonable time take action to enforce the law, and in default the Inspector of Factories may take proceedings, and recover expenses from the Urban Authority.

As a precaution against fire every factory of which the construction was commenced after January 1st, 1892, and where more than 40 persons are employed, shall be furnished with a certificate from the Urban Authority, stating that on the storeys above the ground floor there is such means of escape in case of fire for the persons employed therein as can reasonably be required under the circumstances.

With respect to all factories erected or begun before the above date the Urban Authority must ascertain whether there is proper means of escape in case of fire, and if not serve on the owner a notice in writing, specifying the measures necessary for providing such means, and requiring him to carry them out before a specified time. The Inspector of Factories is empowered to give the like notice and take the like proceedings.

LAUNDRIES

Are classed as Workshops, and are under the same law, except where only members of the same family dwell there, or where not more than two persons dwelling elsewhere are employed there.

BAKEHOUSES.

Some important amendments in the provisions of the Factory Acts relating to Bakehouses have been made by Section 27 of the new Act.

Sections 34 and 35 of the Act of 1878, as amended, read as follows:—All the inside walls of the rooms of such bakehouse and all the ceilings or tops of such rooms (whether such walls, ceilings, or tops, be plastered or not), and all the passages and staircases of such bakehouse shall either be painted with oil, or varnished or be limewashed, or be partly painted or varnished and partly limewashed; where painted with oil or varnished there shall be three coats of paint or varnish, and the paint or varnish shall be renewed once at least in every seven years, and shall be washed with hot water and soap at least once in every six months. Where limewashed, the limewashing shall be renewed once at least in every six months. A place on the same level with the bakehouse, and forming part of the same building, shall not be used as a sleeping place unless it is construced as follows, that is to say: Unless it is effectually separated from the bakehouse by a partition extending from the floor to the ceiling, and unless there be an external glazed window of at least 9 superficial feet in area, of which at least 4½ superficial feet are made to open for ventilation.

Any person who lets, or occupies, or continues to let or knowingly suffers to be occupied any place contrary to this section (35) shall be liable to a fine not exceeding for the first offence and for every subsequent offence £5."

Under Section 15 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1883, it is not lawful "to let or suffer to be occupied as a bakehouse, or to occupy as a bakehouse any room or place unless the following regulations are complied with.

(1) No water closet, earth closet, privy, or ashpit shall be within, or communicate directly with the bakehouse.

(2) Any cistern for supplying water to the bakehouse shall be separate and distinct from any cistern supplying water to a water closet.

(3) No drain or pipe for carrying off foecal or sewage matter shall have an opening within the bakehouse.

Any person who lets, or suffers to be occupied, or who occupies any room or place as a bakehouse in contravention of the section, is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding 40s., and to a further fine not exceeding 5s. for every day during which any room or place is so occupied after a conviction under the section."

Copies of the above, on cardboard, have been placed in all the bakehouses in the borough.

Finally, with reference to bakehouses, the new Act provides that a place underground shall not be used as a bakehouse, unless so used before January 1st, 1896, and if any place so used in contravention of the Act it shall be deemed to be a workshop not kept in conformity with the Act of 1878.

Making of Wearing Apparel in places where there is Infectious Disease.

The new Act is protective in character as follows:—

"If any occupier of a factory or workshop or laundry or any place from which any work is given out, or any contractor employed by any such occupier, causes or allows wearing apparel to be made, cleaned or repaired in any dwelling house or building occupied therewith whilst any inmate of the dwelling house is suffering from scarlet fever or smallpox, then unless he proves that he was not aware of the existence of the illness in the dwelling house, and could not reasonably have been expected to become aware of it, he shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £10."

In connection with the above there are many persons who take work home, and the Inspectors have, as far as possible, ascertained the addresses of these people, so that in case of infectious disease being notified in any of these houses, prompt steps can be taken to prevent the work being removed therefrom, unless efficiently disinfected, and further work stopped until the house is free.

SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

"Every factory or workshop shall be provided with sufficient and suitable accommodation in the way of sanitary conveniences, having regard to the number of persons employed in, or in attendance at the factory or workshop, and also where persons of both sexes are employed or intended to be employed or in attendance, with proper separate accommodation for persons of each sex, and that a factory or workshop in which there is a contravention of the section shall be deemed not to be kept in conformity with the Act of 1878."

Appended is a list of the workshops, arranged according to the various trades carried on therein, with full particulars as to accommodation, etc.

Situation of Premises.	No. of Rooms	Size of Rooms in cubic feet.	No. of Persons allowed.		No. of Persons employed.				No. of Gas-lights.	No. of Windows	Size in square feet.	Size of Chimney Opening.	Remarks.
			Ordinary.	Over-time.	Men	Boys.	W'men	Girls.					
Boot, Shoe & Clog Makers:—													
33, Bolton Road	1	1050	4	2	1	1	...	...	3	1	20	12in. by 8	
302, "	1	630	2	1	1	1	...	...	1	1	25	None	
219, "	1	585	2	1	1	...	...	...	2	1	35	"	
84, Duckworth Street	1	630	2	1	2	...	...	...	1	1	36	"	
139, "	1	1134	4	2	3	...	...	...	2	1	15	1 sq. ft.	
	2	960	3	2	2	...	...	...	1	1	12	"	
27, Nancy Street	1	1440	5	3	3	1	...	...	3	1	48	"	
28, Bridge Street	1	2131	8	5	4	...	...	...	2	1	18	Stove	
36, "	1	1786	7	4	2	...	...	...	2	2	18	"	
2, Red Earth Road	1	1764	7	4	2	3	...	...	3	4	35	"	
7, Bolton Road	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nothing posted here.
363, "	1	1377	5	3	3	...	...	...	4	1	30	1 sq. ft.	
	2	890	3	2	1	...	...	...	1	1	12	"	
8, Grimshaw Street	1	896	3	2	2	...	..	...	2	1	24	"	Window half opens.
516, Bolton Road	1	1188	4	2	1	...	...	...	2	1	24	"	
Bolton Road Co-op. Stores	1	3806	15	9	7	...	...	...	5	3	98	"	
School Street "	1	4763	18	11	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	
47, Red Earth Road	1	2016	8	5	2	1	...	...	3	2	72	None	
8, Higher Stoney Flats	1	1890	7	4	3	...	...	...	2	1	31	1 sq. ft.	
42, Red Earth Road	1	1456	5	3	2	...	...	...	3	1	24	"	
3, Union Street	1	858	3	2	1	...	...	...	1	1	8	None	Window opens.
	2	1092	4	2	4	...	...	...	3	3	27	1 sq. ft.	
27, Kay Street	1	1080	4	2	2	1	...	...	1	1	15	"	
60, Vernon Street	1	704	2	1	2	...	...	...	2	1	30	Stove in workr'm.	
Milliners and Dressmakers:—													
110, Kay Street	1	1232	4	3	...	...	2	...	1	1	15	None	
	2	972	3	2	...	...			1	1	15	"	
21, Cemetery Road	1	1485	5	3	...	...	1	...	1	2	48	1 sq. ft.	
Bolton Road Co-op. Stores	1	4162	16	10	...	...	3	...	15	1	28	"	2 Ventilators in ceiling.
	2	2162	8	5	...	...			4	2	56	"	1 W.C. near room.
School Street Stores	1	3793	15	9	...	...	3	2	8	2	52	None	Electric Light, W.C. in centre of building, W.S. coupled up to W.C.

7A, Market Street	1	3419	13	8	...	...	...	...	...	4	37	...	Electric Light. 1 Ventilator in Showroom.
9, Railway Road	1	2400	9	6	...	..	3	...	2	3	54	1 sq. ft.	
327, Bolton Road	1	800	3	2	...	...	2	...	2	2	12	None	Window half opens.
355, „	1	896	3	2	...	...	3	...	2	2	30	1 sq. ft.	
31, „	1	1080	4	2	...	...	2	...	1	1	24	1½ „	
201, „	1	892	3	2	...	...	...	4	Lamp used.	Roof all glass.	...	None	Sliding Windows.
31, Bridge Street	1	3003	12	7	...	...	4	...	3	3	137	„	Window opens half.
30, „	1	1120	4	2	...	...	2	...	2	2	19	„	Skylight opens. Long Hopper W.C. in room.
25, „	1	810	3	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	50	None	Good workrooms.
	2	486	1	1	...	...	1	...	2	1	22	1 sq. ft.	1 Louvre Ventilator.
	3	2430	9	6	...	...	4	...	8	3	55	„	2 Windows open.
3, Red Earth Road	1	2050	8	5	...	...	2	...	4	2	30	„	
	2	2025	8	5	...	...	2	...	2	2	41	„	
Delph Street	1	1120	4	2	...	...	2	...	3	1	48	„	
95, Duckworth Street	1	648	2	1	...	...	1	...	1	1	15	„	
69, „	1	1188	4	2	...	...	1	...	2	2	23	„	Windows open.
74, „	1	1512	6	3	...	...	3	...	1	1	15	„	„
101, „	1	1344	5	3	...	...	1	...	2	1	15	„	„
23, „	1	1700	6	4	...	...	3	...	1	1	21	„	„
Union Street	1	1388	5	3	...	...	3	1	3	1	24	„	„
	2	967	3	2	...	...			1	1	21	None	„
Bakers and Confectioners:—													
Bridge Street	1	1800	7	4	...	...	2	...	2	1	15	2 sq. ft.	Large Brick Oven.
	2	1792	7	4	...	...	...	...	2	1	15	None	
12, Red Earth Road	1	847	3	2	1	...	1	1	2	3	60	1 sq. ft.	
	2	1304	4	3									
Cook Stool	1	2500	10	6	3	...	...	...	2	2	26	„	
516, Bolton Road	1	5612	22	14	4	...	...	...	4	2	60	1 Oven 6in. by 12	
37, Red Earth Road	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	1	13		
36, „	1	990	3	2	...	...	1	...	1	1	12	1 sq. ft.	Use Gas Oven.
Union Street	1	1974	7	4	3	...	...	...	2	5	34	None	Large Brick Oven.
Tailors:—													
197, Duckworth Street	1	1536	6	3	3	...	...	...	2	1	35	None	Stove in room.
142, „	1	1680	6	4	1	...	...	...	2	2	32	Stove	
131, „	1	1436	5	3	4	...	...	...	2	2	30	1 sq. ft.	
Albert Buildings	1	2258	9	5	4	...	1	...	...	1	18	None	Ventilator, 8in. by 4in.
	2	1840	7	4					4	2	33	Stove	2 Tobins Tubes.

Situation of Premises.	No. of Rooms	Size of Rooms in cubic feet.	No. of Persons allowed.		No. of Persons employed.				No. of Gas-lights.	No. of Windows	Size in square feet.	Size of Chimney Opening.	Remarks.
			Ordinary.	Overtime.	Men	Boys.	W'men	Girls.					
School Street Co-op. Stores......	1	6614	26	16	...	...	2	...	12	2	153	None	Air inlet in window, 15in. by 8in. Clean. Extraction Shaft 15in. diam. Fresh Air from cellar through tube, 14in. by 8in.
1, Market Street	1	2366	11	5	1	...	...	...	3	3	54	2 sq. ft.	
35, Bolton Road	1	3135	12	7	2	2	...	...	2	1	28	Stove	
231, „	1	432	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	21	1 sq. ft.	
14, Bridge Street	1	1287	5	3	3	...	...	...	1	1	18	Stove	
35, „	1	1923	7	4	2	1	...	...	4	1	70	„	
19, „	1	2956	11	7	2	...	...	...	3	4	44	„	
Plumbers:—													
205, Bolton Road	1	4225	17	10	1	1	...	...	1	1	60	1 sq. ft.	Well Ventilated.
125, „	1	2182	8	5	...	...	...	...	5	2	24	„	
	2	2182	8	5	...	...	...	...		4	16		
7, Grimshaw Street	1	2025	8	5	1	...	...	...	3	1	40	„	
9, Foundry Street..........................	1	3150	12	7	3	...	...	...	3	1	30	Stove	
82, Duckworth Street	1	1680	6	4	1	1	...	...	1	1	56	None	
Tinplate Workers:—													
Union Street	1	7605	30	19	3	...	...	...	4	8	118	„	2 Bench Stoves.
Red Earth Road	1	2583	10	6	2	...	...	...	3	3	51	2 sq. ft.	Skylight opens.
Cabinet Makers, Joiners and Coffin Makers:—													
1, Joseph Street West	1	1890	7	4	1	...	...	...	Oil Lamps.	2	30	1 sq. ft.	
161, Duckworth Street	1	2400	9	6	2	...	...	...	2	2	30	Stove	
8, Church Street	1	3645	14	9	3	...	...	...	4	4	80	„	
	2	2926	11	7	1	...	...	...	1	1	40	„	
Victoria Street	1	3432	13	8	1	...	...	...	1	2	30	None	
Bowling Green	1	4256	17	10	3	...	...	...	2	2	40	Stove	
	2	4256	17	10					...	2	40	None	
„ (Dawson)	...	...	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	Carrying out alterations
„ (Kirby)	1	3600	15	9	1	...	...	...	1	2	32	None	Gas Engine.
„ (Duxbury)............	1	21600	86	54	2	...	...	...	3	11	1270	Stove	

Smiths :—													
Bowling Green	1	1160	4	2	2	1	...	...	3	6	108	4 sq. ft.	
Princess Street	1	7436	29	16	2	...	...	...	3	2	30	2 ,,	
Harness Makers :—													
Duckworth Street	1	1248	4	3	1	...	...	...	1	1	14	1 ,,	
11, Bolton Road	1	1568	6	3	3	...	...	...	4	2	34	Stove	
	1	1375	5	3	2	1	...	...	4	1	50	1 sq. ft.	
Brushmaker :—													
Church Bank Street	1	4667	17	11	3	1	...	...	1	5	135	Stove	
Jeweller :—													
189, Duckworth Street	1	1890	6	4	1	...	...	...	1	1	15	1 sq. ft.	
Picture Frame Maker :—													
29, Bolton Road	1	1200	4	3	2	...	...	...	Oil Lamps used.	1	16	1 ft. sq.	
	2	1216	4	3						2	24		
	3	768	3	1						2	20	1 Stove	
Steam Laundry :—													
55, Bolton Road	1	2640	10	6	1	...	3	...	1	3	21	None	In Cellar.
Chipped Potatoes :—													
144, Bolton Road	1	924	3	2	1	...	...	...	1	1	12	1 sq. ft.	Gas Engine.
Herb Beer Maker :—													
Bowling Green	1	1500	6	2	5	1	...	...	5	6	120	2 ,,	
	2	8000	36	30					4	8	224	2 ,,	
Cycle Repairer :													
99, Duckworth Street	1	1008	4	2	2	...	...	...	1	1	16	None	

MANURE HEAPS.

During the year, Inspector Marsden and I visited the manure heaps in the town, and collected the following particulars—

These heaps are all more or less exposed to the weather, and the receptacles are not suitable for the purpose. In all cases these should be covered over as a protection from the weather, and the insides cemented and properly drained into a tank.

Situation.	Size.					Depth.			Distance from Nearest Dwelling.
	ft.	in.		ft.	in.		ft.	in.	
Back Duckworth Street	12	0	by	6	6	by	5	0	12 feet
Foundry Street	15	0	by	10	0	by	5	0	70 feet
Quaker Lane	15	0	by	5	0	by	2	0	35 feet
Whalley Street	15	0	by	15	0	by	3	0	37 feet
Sudell Road	9	0	by	6	0				45 feet
Back Princess Street	15	0	by	5	0	by	5	0	15 feet
16, Livesey Place	8	0	by	6	0	by	4	0	8 feet
Hill Houses	8	0	by	4	0				10 feet
British Queen	30	0	by	5	0				30 feet
Back Bolton Street	5	0	by	5	0	by	3	0	10 feet
Back Green Street East	8	0	by	5	0				28 feet
Back Willow Street	7	0	by	5	6	by	3	0	14 feet yard wall
George Inn	12	0	by	6	0				38 feet
Wellington Fold	9	0	by	15	0	by	4	6	13ft. 6in.
Harwood Street	40	0	by	20	0				12 feet
Back Greenway Arms	14	0	by	9	0				adjoining
Last Rose of Summer	8	0	by	5	0				
Dove Lane	35	0	by	10	0				100 feet
Whalley & Ramsbottom	8	0	by	5	0	by	4	0	36 feet
Ainsworth's	12	0	by	8	0	by	3	0	
No houses near. Two downspouts drain into this midden.									
Butterworth's, baker.—W. Croft, farmer, removes manure from this stable every morning.									
Nightingale's, baker	4	0	by	6	0	by	4	0	18 feet
Crown Inn	5	0	by	5	0	by	3	6	8 feet

SITUATION.	SIZE.		DEPTH.	DISTANCE FROM NEAREST DWELLING.
	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	
Back Red Earth Road	12 0 by	8 0 by	6 0	20 feet
This midden is in a very bad condition.				
Black Horse	4 0 by	4 0 by	8 0	15 feet
This is a covered midden.				
Albert Spinning Co.	15 0 by	7 0 by	2 6	
No houses near.				
George Cooper, Grimshaw Street	13 0 by	9 0 by	4 0	28 feet
Nall's, Spring Vale Station	12 0 by	8 0 by	4 0	
No houses near. This midden is cleared fortnightly.				
Borough Hotel	18 0 by	5 0 by	8 0	20 feet
Smalley's, Peabody Street	6 0 by	5 0 by	3 0	65 feet
This midden is cleared fortnightly.				
Leach, Anyon Street	15 0 by	15 0 by	6 0	15 feet
Haydock, Back Tithebarn Street	10 0 by	7 0 by	3 0	30 feet
Back Nancy Street	18 0 by	15 0 by	3 0	30 feet
Briggs, Sarah Street	9 0 by	9 0 by	2 0	
No houses near.				
Greenwood's, Heys Lane	16 0 by	9 0 by	3 0	14 feet
Prescotts', Edward Street	13 0 by	9 0 by	3 0	
No houses near. As a rule this midden is emptied every week.				
Nall's, Railway Road	34 0 by	28 0 by	3 0	60 feet
Dr. Gifford's, Blackburn Road	13 0 by	8 0 by	3 0	
No houses near.				
Haworth, Leach's Mill	10 0 by	8 0 by	3 0	
No houses near.				
Daltry, Woodfold Mill	8 0 by	4 0 by	5 0	40 feet
Lloyd & Millward, Argyle Street	14 0 by	8 0 by	4 0	22 feet
George Hotel	8 0 by	4 0 by	4 0	15 feet
Golden Cup	7 0 by	6 0 by	2 0	20 feet
Engineer's Arms	9 0 by	3 0 by	3 0	
Joins up to house wall.				
Oldham's, Back Union Street	10 0 by	8 0 by	2 0	50 feet
E. Ainsworth, Shorey Bank Yard	8 0 by	6 0 by	3 0	120 feet
Nall's, Shorey Bank	12 0 by	28 0 by	4 0	40 feet
Brindle & Hindle	10 0 by	10 0 by	6 0	50 feet
Tomlinson's, Atlas Road	18 0 by	7 0 by	6 0	38 feet

THE INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL

Has been used for cases of Scarlet Fever, Typhoid Fever and Erysipelas. In all there was insufficient means in the house for perfect isolation, and as a temporary check to the disease spreading, the persons so suffering were at once removed. In my report for 1895 I gave a description of the Hospital, and a reference to that will show that the place was not constructed for more than two infectious disorders being received there at the same time. The most important diseases—laying aside Smallpox—are Typhoid Fever and Scarlet Fever, and I would recommend for this year at least that preference should be given to the latter, so as to avert, if possible, the epidemic which will most probably visit us again this year. I would also suggest that certain alterations should be made in the arrangement of the Hospital, which would render management more economical and easier.

Name.	Disease.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Days.
James Durkin	Typhoid Fever	...	Jan. 4th	4
Rudolph Durkin	Do.	...	Jan. 4th	4
William Durkin	Do.	...	Jan. 18th	18
Agnes Dipper	Scarlet Fever	Jan. 28th	Feb. 17th	21
James Slavin	Typhoid Fever	June 4th	July 11th	37
John Scully	Do.	June 11th	Aug. 8th	58
Wm. Rowbottom	Do.	Aug. 9th	Sep. 19th	41
Arthur Lucas	Scarlet Fever	Sep. 29th	Nov. 16th	18
Martha Lucas	Do.	Sep. 29th	Nov. 16th	18
James Corrigan	Erysipelas	Nov. 4th	Dec. 31st	57
				276

The Inspectors have been very active in watching the food supply of the town.

On February 13th a carcase was condemned by Drs. J. H. Wraith and W. Moir, and by order of a magistrate was destroyed.

On June 3rd a parcel of Fish weighing about 6 lbs. was seized and destroyed.

A quantity of Fruit was also seized as being unfit for food, and destroyed.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

As this disease has given rise to some discussion in Committee, I herewith give some information, which will, no doubt, be interesting, and I hope instructive. In a recent publication of the "British Medical Journal" there appeared an address by Dr. Cullingworth, of London, on the mortality from Puerperal Fever in England and Wales, of which the following table gives particulars of this from 1847 to 1895 inclusive :—

Year.	No. of Deaths.	Per 1,000 Births.	Year.	No. of Deaths.	Per 1,000 Births.	Year.	No. of Deaths.	Per 1,000 Births.
1847	784	1·5	1864	1484	2·0	1881	2287	2·6
1848	1365	2·4	1865	1333	1·8	1882	2564	2·9
1849	1165	2·0	1866	1197	1·5	1883	2616	2·9
1850	1113	1·9	1867	1066	1·4	1884	2468	2·7
1851	1009	1·6	1868	1196	1·5	1885	2420	2·7
1852	972	1·6	1869	1181	1·5	1886	2078	2·3
1853	795	1·3	1870	1492	1·9	1887	2450	2·8
1854	954	1·7	1871	1464	1·8	1888	2386	2·7
1855	1079	1·7	1872	1400	1·7	1889	1852	2·1
1856	1067	1·6	1873	1740	2·1	1890	1956	2·2
1857	836	1·3	1874	3108	3·6	1891	1973	2·2
1858	1068	1·6	1875	2504	2·9	1892	2356	2·6
1859	1238	1·8	1876	1746	2·0	1893	3023	3·3
1860	987	1·4	1877	1444	1·6	1894	2167	2·4
1861	886	1·3	1878	1415	1·6	1895	1849	2·0
1862	940	1·3	1879	1464	1·7	—	—	—
1863	1155	1·6	1880	1659	1·9	—	—	—

It will seen that in 1881 there was a rise both in the number of deaths and in the percentage. This was kept up until 1893, when the highest point was reached, viz., 3·3 per 1,000 births. Since then there has been a slight decline, but not sufficient to indicate any very great lowering of the mortality figures.

In March, 1896, Dr. Williams, Medical Officer of Health for the County of Glamorgan, read a paper before the Epidemiological Society, in which he showed that of the various districts and counties of England and Wales those with the heaviest death-rate from Puerperal Fever between the years 1848 and 1894 were Lancashire (2·4), which heads the list; North and South Wales, Northumberland and Cheshire (2·2). Close behind them came Cumberland, Durham, the West Riding of Yorkshire, Derby and London (2·1). Surrey had the lowest mortality, and very near to it came Cornwall, Sussex, Hants, Dorset and Rutland (all under 1·4).

Of the respective parishes of the London Sanitary Districts, 1891-95, giving the number of cases notified per 1,000 births, Hampstead heads the list with 3·64, followed closely by Islington, Battersea, Wandsworth and Lewisham, all above 3·0 per 1,000 births, and so in decreasing numbers down to St. Martin-in-the-Fields, with 0·00.

The number of Deaths recorded for the whole of London in the Returns of the Registar General was 1,305, whilst the number of cases notified was 1,449, showing the very heavy mortality from this disease, or else that the cases notified were for the most part fatal. This heavy mortality is, however, borne out by the records in our own town. In 1895 there were 8 cases reported, which gives a rate of 7·0 per 1,000 births, and of these, 5 were fatal, showing a rate of 4·4 per 1,000 births.

Last year (1896) the number of cases notified was 9, which gives a rate of 8·7, and the fatal cases were at the rate of 5·8 per 1,000 births, there having been 6 deaths.

By these figures it will be seen that we occupy a most unenviable position with regard to Puerperal Fever as compared with even the whole of Lancashire, the reason for this it is not easy to give.

There is certainly much room for improvement, and I think a great deal can be done in this direction by educating the people in habits of cleanliness, especially in the rooms and persons of lying-in women, and towards this end the introduction into the town of specially trained and certified Midwifery Nurses will go a long way. This matter, I may tell you, is now under consideration, and before long we may have two such Nurses established here in connection with the Queen Victoria Jubilee Association.

SUMMARY OF MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

FOR 1896.

Urban Sanitary District of Darwen.

Area in Statute Acres	5919
Population (Census, 1891)	34192
Population (Estimated, 1896)	36652

Name of Medical Officer of Health - - F. G. HAWORTH.

Salary £200.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Births Registered	531	501	1032
Deaths Registered	297	330	627

Birth-rate	28·1
Death-rate	17·1
Rate of Infant Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births	181
Death-rate from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases	2·2

Diseases prevalent.—Whooping Cough, Erysipelas, Scarlet Fever. Period.—Second half of year.

Any schools closed?—Yes. If so, for what diseases?—Measles, Scarlet Fever.

What is the character of the Hospital accommodation?—Isolation for all infectious diseases.

Is it joint or otherwise?—No. Number of beds available for the district.—18.

What were the cases treated —Scarlet Fever, Typhoid Fever, and Erysipelas.

Deaths in Hospital.—None.

How is disinfection carried out?—Steam in Hospital, Equifix Spray in Houses. Apparatus used?—Washington Lyon's.

Is the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act in force?—Darwen Corporation Act, 1887.

Are any Diseases not specially mentioned in the Act notifiable?—No.

What is the character of house accommodation?—Principally cottage; good.

Has any action been taken under "The Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890"?—Proposed building of 50 Artizans' dwellings; borrowing powers obtained.

Water Supply?—Town's; Moorland.

Is scavenging carried out satisfactorily?—Yes.

By Sanitary Authority or Contract?—Sanitary Authority.

How is the refuse disposed of?—On land.

What is the character of Drainage and the form of Sewage Disposal?—Single; International.

Canal Boats.—None.

What is the condition of the Bake houses?—Good.

Slaughter Houses?—One private; remainder Corporation. Good.

Lodging Houses?—One Model Lodging House in course of erection.

Are they Registered?—Yes.

Are the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops periodically inspected?—Yes.

Have any Regulations been made by your Authority under the Order of the Local Government Board?—No.

Have the Factories and Workshops been inspected, and with what result?—Yes.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.—No. of Samples purchased?—None. Prosecutions?—None.

Food unfit for Human Consumption, amount seized?—Beef, about 500 lbs.; Haddocks, 7 lbs.; Black Currants, 42 lbs.

Any Special Report of Medical Officer of Health during the year?—No.

Department of Inspectors of Nuisances.

Number of Notices served—2,169.

Number of Nuisances remedied—1,523.

Number of Legal Proceedings taken and result—Five cases of overcrowding abated.

Smoke.

Number of Observations?—40.

Number of Legal Proceedings threatened and result?—Chimney raised to 40 yards.

What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke?—Fifteen minutes per hour.

Has the Authority adopted:—

(a) "The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890"?—Yes, except Sects. 5 to 11 inclusive and 15.

(b) "The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890"?—Yes, except paragraph relating to music and dancing.

TABLE XVII.

Streets in which cases of Infectious Diseases amongst Paupers have occurred during 1896.

DIARRHŒA has been responsible for cases in—

North-East.	North-West.	Central.	South-West.	West-Central
Holden Fold.	Plough Yard.	Bath Street.	Astley Street.	James Street.
			Bolton Road.	

MEASLES has appeared in—

North-East.	North-West.	West-Central.	Central.	South-East.
Greenfield Ter.	Lawrence Street.	James Street.	Vernon Street.	Back Spring Street.
Holden Fold.				Crown Street.

ERYSIPELAS in—

North-West.	South-West.	North-East.
Rock Terrace.	Naylor Street.	Blackburn Road.
	Stoney Flats.	

GOVERNMENT FORM B.

Table of New Cases of Sickness coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the Year 1896, in the Urban Sanitary District of Darwen, among Out-door Paupers.

		Under 5 Years.	5 Years and Upwards.
Smallpox		0	0
Measles		7	6
Scarlet Fever		0	0
Diphtheria		0	0
Croup (not Spasmodic)		0	0
Whooping Cough		3	1
CONTINUED FEVERS	Typhus	0	0
	Enteric or Typhoid	0	0
	Other or Doubtful	0	0
Diarrhœa and Dysentery		6	4
Cholera		0	0
Rheumatic Fever		0	0
Erysipelas		0	5
Pyæmia		0	0
Puerperal Fever		0	0
Ague		0	0
Pneumonia		1	4
Chicken Pox		0	0

REPORT

OF THE

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1896.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,
DARWEN, FEBRUARY, 1897.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report of the work done in the Sanitary Department during the year ending December 31st, 1896.

Summary of Nuisances dealt with.

No. of Houses and Premises inspected		3,421
,, Nuisances discovered		1,508
Preliminary Notices served	Owners	670
	Occupiers	208
Legal Notices served	Owners	713
	Occupiers	578
No. of Nuisances abated		1,523
,, Re-inspections		2,503
,, Complaints received		140
,, ,, attended to		135
Letters written respecting Nuisances		116

Description of Nuisances dealt with.

Defective Drains (badly laid, &c.)	31
To Open and Flush choked Drains	86
,, Refix and cement uneven Gullies	74
,, Disconnect Waste-pipes from Drain	20
,, Repair defective Soil-pipes	2
,, ,, Water Closets	18
,, ,, Downspouts, &c.	145
,, Cleanse Yards, Flag Yards, and Repair defective Flagging, &c , in Yards	100
,, Construct proper Drains	108
,, Cleanse and Limewash dirty Houses and Premises ...	191
,, Abate Nuisances caused by the overcrowding of houses	18
,, Cleanse and Limewash filthy Closets	8

To Remove accumulations of Refuse, &c.	35
,, Abate Nuisances caused by the Keeping of Animals	18
,, Provide Closet Accommodation	9
,, Abolish Unsanitary Ashpits	237
,, Provide Proper Coverings for Ashtubs	95
,, Repair broken Slop-pipes	84
,, Re-build dangerous Walls, Closets, Buildings, &c.	6
,, Provide Ashes Accommodation	3
,, Open and Flush Waste Water Closets	44
,, Repair Closet Receptacle Doors	4
,, Abate Nuisances under the Quarry (Fencing) Act	3
,, Convert Unsanitary Closet to W.W.C. System	42
,, Miscellaneous Nuisances	39

In the above list it will be found that 18 cases of overcrowding have been dealt with. These occurred chiefly in Stoney Flats, Greggs Gardens, and Chapels Districts.

After frequent inspections both by day and night during the months of June and July, a number of notices were served to discontinue keeping lodgers, but in five cases the notices were not complied with. Proceedings were taken against the following persons with the result that they were ordered to abate nuisances, and were fined as follows:—

				Total Fine.		
1896.				£	s.	d.
July 9.—	John Durkin, 39,	Stoney Flats,	Overcrowding House	0	13	0
,,	Ellen Chambers, 42	,,	,,	0	14	0
,,	Ellen Madden, 43,	,,	,,	0	13	0
,,	Thos. McNicholas, 44,	,,	,,	0	13	0
,,	Jas. Durkin, 51,	,,	,,	0	13	0

Since July the districts have been periodically inspected, and have been found in a much improved condition, although there are a few cases of overcrowding, which is caused through the difficulty in obtaining houses and proper lodging house accommodation.

44 Waste Water Closets have been found to be choked, chiefly through the carelessness of the tenants and through builders' refuse having been left in when the houses were built.

18 Closets have been converted from Hand Flushed Hopper Closets to the Waste Water System.

23 Closets have been converted from Pail or Cesspool System to Waste Water System.

19 Pails have been added during the year at Schools, Mills, and Farms.

40 Pails have been done away with for the Waste Water and Latrine System.

462 Ashtubs and 20 Dustbins have been sent out, some to new property and others to substitute old Ashpits, &c.,

Infectious Diseases.

266 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified to this Department during 1896, 6 of which were removed to the Hospital.

No. of Notifications	266
„ Houses Visited	238
„ „ Disinfected	250
„ Rooms Fumigated	57
„ Visits to Infected Houses ...about	430

ANALYSIS OF NOTIFICATIONS.

MONTHLY.

DISEASE.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Scarlet Fever......	2	2	2	3	2	14	34	27	29	16	5	3	139
Typhoid Fever ...	7	1	5	1	5	4	...	2	2	1	4	1	33
Erysipelas	5	3	6	4	6	4	3	5	12	2	10	10	70
Diphtheria.........	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	5
Puerperal Fever...	1	1	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	3	...	9
Memb. Croup ...	1	1	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	7
Continued Fever..	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	3
Total	16	9	18	10	15	22	39	34	45	20	23	15	266

The following is a list of articles removed to the Hospital to be stoved from 41 houses.

Beds	34	Sheets	37
Mattresses	28	Suits of Clothes	6
Bolsters	37	Carpets	19
Pillows	22	Rugs	8
Quilts	28	Sundries	30
Blankets	30		

Factory and Workshops Acts.

Under this Act 230 visits have been made to Factories and Workshops, and a large quantity of information obtained, a full list of which appears in the Medical Officer's Report.

It has been necessary to serve notices for the abatement of the following Nuisances :—

Limewash and Cleanse	4
Insufficient Ventilation	3
,, Closet Accommodation	1

Vans Occupied as Dwellings.

60 visits have been made to Vans occupied as Dwellings which have entered the Borough, for the purpose of discovering Infectious Diseases and noting their condition.

All Vans which have entered the town have been found in a very clean condition.

Common Lodging Houses.

There is now only one registered lodging house in the Borough, and is situated in Bury Street. There is accommodation for 19 men.

At the temporary lodging house in the Old Workhouse buildings there are 50 beds, with accommodation for about 60 persons. The place has been more or less full during the greater part of the year.

Both these places have been frequently inspected during day and night, and have been found in a fairly clean condition.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

40 Smoke Observations were taken, 13 of which exceeded the limit of 15 minutes.

9 Notices were served to abate the nuisance arising from Black Smoke.

In one case notices were served to build chimney 50 yards high, but the chimney has only been raised from 27 yards to 41 yards.

Very little improvement has been made towards mitigating the Black Smoke Nuisance, and I would strongly recommend the Committee to consider the question of reducing the limit, which is now 15 minutes per hour.

I append a list of a few towns, along with the limit they allow for Black Smoke.

Manchester	1	minute	per half-hour.	
Bolton	2½	„	per hour.	
St. Helens	5	„	continuous emission constitutes a nuisance.	
Leeds	5	„	per hour.	
Sheffield	6	„	„	
Blackburn	7	„	„	
Oldham	9	„	„	4 minutes half-hour.
Stoke-on-Trent	15	„	„	
Darwen	15	„	„	

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN DURING 1896.

	BLACK.	MODERATE.	NOT SMOKING.
South Belgrave	1	59	—
Do.	6	54	—
Belgrave Mills	1½	23	35½
Do.	4	28	28
Woodside Mill	2	26	32
Foundry Street Mill	4	17½	38½
Do.	5	9½	45½
Do.	5	14½	40½

	Black.	Moderate.	Not Smoking.
Foundry Street Mill	5	16	39
Do.	7	16	37
Do.	7½	13	39½
Do.	8½	14½	37
Do.	9	9½	41½
Do.	10	3	47
Do.	14½	14	31½
Do.	17	13	30
Do.	20½	20½	19
Do.	21½	—	38½
Brookside Mill	3	27	30
George Street Mill	8	17	35
Bolton Road Foundry	9½	5	45½
Do.	10½	6	43½
Spring Vale (Low Chimney)	10	28	22
Do. (Tall do.)	20	28	12
Bank Top Mill	11	10	39
Cotton Hall (Whipp Bros.)	12	13	35
Hampden Mill	12	14	34
Spring Vale Brewery	12	15½	32½
Collins Paper Mill	12	16½	31½
Do.	17	16½	26½
Do.	18	15	27
Do.	24	14	22
Queen Street Mill	13½	5½	41
New Mill	14	25	21
Vale Street Mill	20	7	33
Spring Vale Rope Works	20	18	22
No. 1 Spinning Mill	20½	17	22½
Do.	23	19½	17½
Woodfold Mill	28½	16	15½
Cotton Hall Spinning Co.	31	15½	13½

Hackney Carriage Department.

Licenses granted to Conductors	17
,, ,, Drivers	15
,, ,, for Cars, &c.	10

Unsound Food.

During the year periodical visits have been made to the Wholesale Market, Fish and Fruiterers' Shops, Butchers' Shops, &c., with the result that

500lbs. of Beef,
40lbs. of Black Currants,
7lbs. of Haddock,

was seized as being unfit for food, and orders for destruction granted by Magistrates.

There was one prosecution under this head :—

July 9.—J. B. Briggs, Exchange Street, Hawking Unsound Haddock which had been taken from Dustbins; fined 10s. and costs; total fine, £1 9s. 0d.

General Information.

All the Manure Pits are frequently visited, and in case of large accumulations notices are served to abate the nuisances.

During the month of October a number of insanitary houses were visited, and information obtained as to the size of rooms, ventilation, ashes and closet accommodation, &c., a full report of which has been submitted by the Medical Officer.

150 Notices have been served on Butchers, Greengrocers, Tripe Dealers, &c., *re* wrapping up food in printed paper.

6 Notices have been served for Closing Schools for Infectious Diseases.

20 Notices have been served on the occupiers of Bakehouses with respect to the Section of the Act, referring to Limewashing and Cleansing.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. E. MARSDEN, Assoc. San. Inst.,

Chief Inspector.

REPORT

OF THE

Scavenging Superintendent

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1896.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you my report for the past year.

SCAVENGING DEPARTMENT.

The following Table shows how the ashes, &c., have been disposed of—

Bold Venture	Tip	6,446 loads
Holden Fold	,,	3,984 ,,
Hoddlesden	,,	297 ,,
Greenfield	,,	296 ,,
Whitehall	,,	2,050 ,,
Moss	,,	163 ,,
		13,236 loads

588 loads of market garbage have been removed to Holden Fold and Sett End.

Ashpits reported to the Health Department for emptying, 28; Pails ditto, 15.

Every attention is paid to seeing that the various Tips are kept in order, and covered with soil, gravel, or sweepings. The one at Whitehall is nearly finished.

2,922 loads of sweepings have been removed from the streets.

6,929 loads of excrement have been removed to the various farms. Very great difficulty has been experienced in getting rid of the excrement, owing to the land being so wet and soft through the heavy rains which have fallen since July last. A good many of the farmers have absolutely refused to have any on their land.

The following length of streets have been swept—By machine, 627¾ miles; by hand, 1,518½ miles.

266,539 gallons of water have been used for street watering.

Dr. Haworth and myself have inspected the whole of the registered Farms and Milkshops in the Borough, viz. 132. From the commencement of our inspection we found a very marked improvement in the cleanliness of the Shippons, Midden steads, &c.

There was not a single farm on which we had to serve notice for Limewashing.

Three people have given up selling Milk. Three others have commenced to sell Milk, and have been duly registered under the Milkshops Order.

One new Shippon, and three new Dairies have been built, and Plans have been passed for new Shippon and Dairy at another farm during the year.

The following Table shows the defects for which notices have been served—

	Nuisances.	Nuisances Abated.
Shippons Short of Light and Ventilation	14	5
Dairies ,, ,,	5	3
Tanks under Shippon Floors	3	1
Uneven Shippon Floors	5	1
Defective Drainage	3	2
,, Midden steads	2	1
,, Water Supply	1	0
Cesspool Closets	3	0
	36	13

39 re-inspections have been made of these farms where the notices have not been complied with. These will be closely followed up, and reported to the Committee until the various works are carried out.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

W. H. ECCLES,

Scavenging Superintendent and Farm Inspector.

REPORT

OF THE

MEAT INSPECTOR

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1896.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to lay before you my report for the past year.

The following is a list of the animals slaughtered in the Public Abattoirs for the years 1895 and 1896:—

	1896.	1895.
Beasts	1169	1137
Sheep	6045	6086
Calves	516	584
Swine	453	1061
	8183	8868

From the above figures the greatest difference is seen in the number of swine which have been killed, the decrease being 608, or more than the total number killed last year.

This is accounted for by Messrs. Green & Sons having transferred their business to Blackburn.

Private Abattoir.

	1896.	1895.
Beasts	465	546
Sheep	4590	4470
Calves	24	23
	5079	5039

On account of the increase in the importation of cattle from abroad into Birkenhead, where they are killed, there is a decrease in the number killed at the above place in the town. This, however, necessitates greater vigilance in the matter of inspection.

During the year there have been 221 tons of Tripe and Trotters brought into the town from Birkenhead, Glasgow, Dumfries, and Blackburn. All this has been carefully examined by me.

I have also issued a number of permits to farmers and others to slaughter cattle on unlicensed premises. In every case I have inspected the carcases.

Contagious Disease.

In connection with the above I have visited the Farms in the Borough, and I found everything satisfactory.

During the past year the following meat was condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

Beasts	7	Pigs	2
Sheep	10	Odds	8 cwts.
Calves	2		

Being a total of 2 tons 13 cwt.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WM. BICKERSTAFFE,

Meat Inspector.

J. J. Riley, Printer, Bookbinder, &c., "News" Office, Darwen.